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JACKPOT

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BLACK HOOD



MR. JUSTICE



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MAN OF STEEL



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ZIP
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ON SALE ABOUT
THE 25TH OF EVERY MONTH

RANG-A-TANG
THE WONDER DOG



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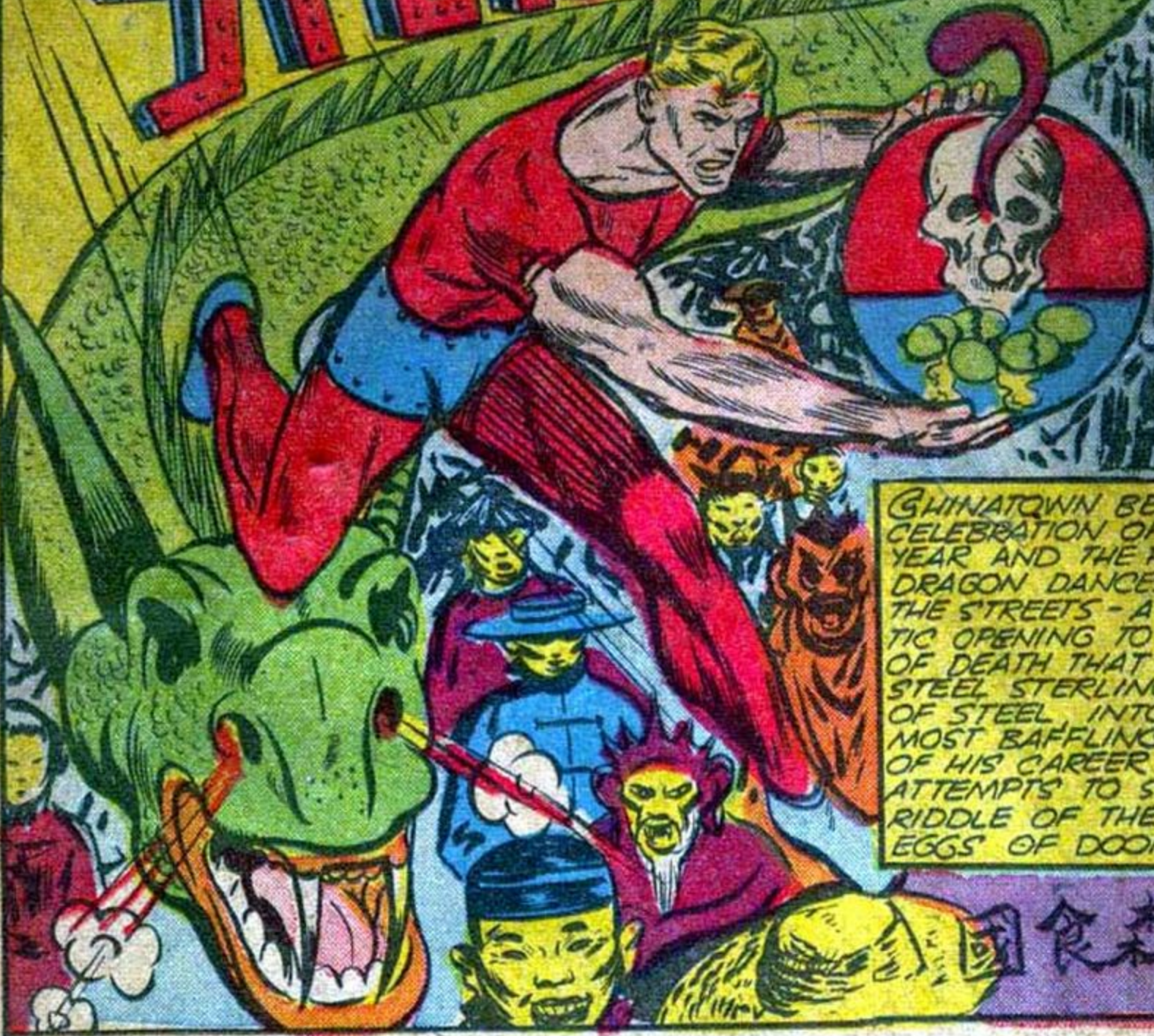
COMICS




ON SALE ABOUT THE 30TH OF EVERY MONTH

STEEL MAN OF STEEL

STERLING



GHINATOWN BEGINS THE CELEBRATION OF ITS NEW YEAR AND THE PAPER DRAGON DANCES THROUGH THE STREETS - A FANTASTIC OPENING TO A DANCE OF DEATH THAT DRAWS STEEL STERLING, MAN OF STEEL INTO THE MOST BAFFLING MYSTERY OF HIS CAREER... AS HE ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE GREEN EGGS OF DOOM!

氣森食國

OFFICER CLANCY PATROLS HIS BEAT ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FRIEND LOONEY.

BOY! DID I CLEAN UP THAT CASE!

WHAT D'YA MEAN? WHY, I PULLED MY GUN' AND I- UH- GULP - H-HELLO, STEEL

YOU GOING TO ALLOW THAT GUY TO PARK BY THE FIRE PLUG, CLANCY? HE'S BREAKING THE LAW!

WHAT?

I'LL SHOW HIM HE CAN'T TRIFLE WITH A MINION OF THE LAW!... HEY, YOU!... WHO 'D'YA THINK YOU ARE - YEHUDI?



OH, A WISE GUY, HUH? WON'T TALK, EH? WELL, GET OUT OF THAT BUGGY AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



RESISTING AN OFFICER, ARE YOU? WHY-OH -GULP! - WOW!



STEEL! LOONEY! C'MERE QUICK! THIS DEAD GUY IS A DEAD GUY! I MEAN - LOOK!



HM! A GREEN EGG... AND CRUSHED! WHY? WHY WAS IT IN THE CAR IN THE FIRST PLACE?



LET'S SEE - A GREEN EGG IS THE CHINESE SYMBOL OF JOY FOR THE NEW YEAR!... HM! THAT MIGHT BE AN IDEA!



I GUESS YOU CAN HANDLE THIS CASE, CAN'T YOU? I'VE GOT TO BEAT IT! I'M TAKING DORA OUT FOR DINNER TONIGHT - IN CHINA-TOWN!



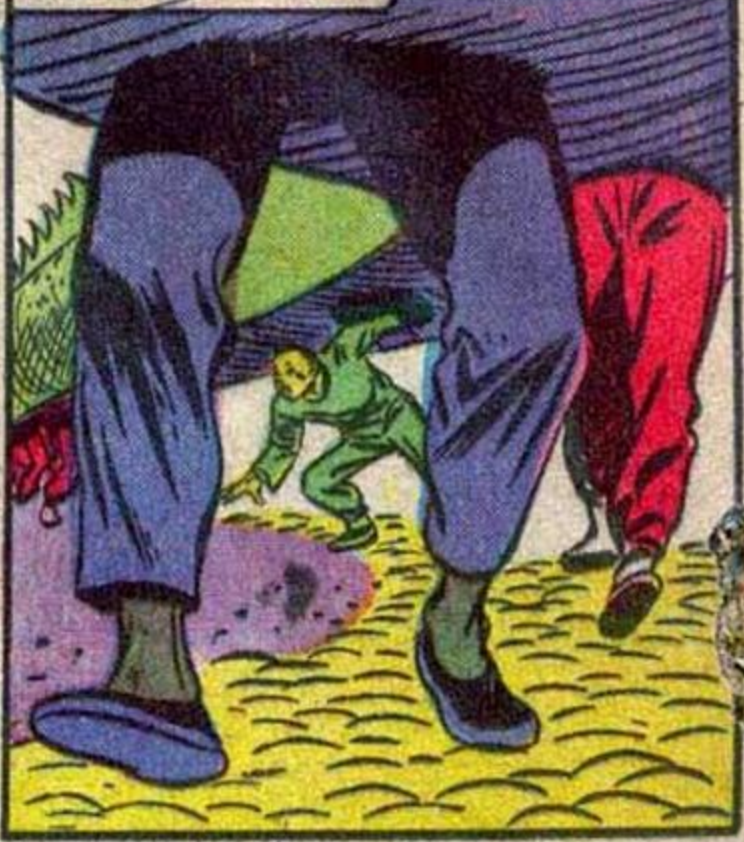
THAT NIGHT... IN CHINATOWN!

THEY CERTAINLY WELCOME THEIR NEW YEAR WITH A "BANG," DON'T THEY, DORA?

THEY SURE DO! AND I'M SIMPLY CRAZY ABOUT THAT DRAGON - WITH THOSE MEN INSIDE!



AT THAT INSTANT A FIGURE LEAVES THE DRAGON AND DARTS TOWARDS THE SIDEWALK!



STEALTHILY, HE APPROACHES A BYSTANDER WHOSE HAND CLUTCHES A GREEN EGG!



THE MURDERER GRABS UP THE EGG AND SMASHES IT IN HIS FIST! A MOMENT LATER - HE IS GONE!



LET'S SEE WHAT'S UP OVER THERE DORA! THE CROWD SEEMS TO HAVE DISCOVERED SOMETHING INTERESTING!



LET'S GO, DORA! WE'RE HERE TO ENJOY OURSELVES -NOT TO DABBLE WITH A TONG MURDER!

ALL RIGHT, STEEL! BUT -IT SEEMS RATHER STRANGE, DOESN'T IT?



MEANWHILE, THE PARADE PASSES A CHINESE ICE CREAM FACTORY...



ONCE AGAIN, THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE DARTS OUT FROM BENEATH THE PAPER DRAGON...



IN A ROOM IN THE FACTORY!

DON'T GIVE ME NONE OF THAT HOKUM ABOUT NOT FINDING THE EGGS! I WANT 'EM FOUND! ALL OF 'EM! GET ME?

YES MR. ROMERO!



WELL, TANG! WHAT'S THE NEWS? FIND ANY MORE OF THEM EGGS?

YES, MR. ROMERO! ME FIND!



ME KILL MAN IN FRONT OF JEWEL TREE CAFE! HE HAVE EGG - BUT NOT RIGHT ONE!

THE JEWEL TREE CAFE, EH?



YOU GUYS GET OVER THERE AND GET EVERY EGG IN THE PLACE - AND I DON'T CARE HOW ROUGH YOU GET!



BUT YOU, TANG - YOU'RE NOT TO KNIFE ANYBODY ELSE! GET THE EGGS SOMEHOW - BUT NO MORE KILLIN'!



ROMERO'S MEN ENTER THE REAR ROOM OF THE JEWEL TREE CAFE!



WITH FLASHING KNIVES AND FLAILING AXES, THEY FALL UPON THE STARTLED EMPLOYEES!



IN A BOOTH OUT FRONT...

AS SOON AS IT'S SAFE-GET A TAXI AND GO HOME! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON BACK THERE!



THE MAN OF STEEL DASHES TOWARD THE KITCHEN!



HERE'S AN ORDER FOR YOU CHEF! TRY THIS ON YOUR FRYING PAN!



WELL, WELL! THAT GENT SEEMS TO WANT THAT CRATE OFF EGGS!



HEY!



OOH!



WHEW! YOU MUST BE FULL OF CREAMED RICE! THIS'LL HELP YOU DIGEST IT...OR ELSE!



POLICE CARS ROAR TOWARDS CHINATOWN IN RESPONSE TO A RIOT CALL!



CALLING ALL CARS! RIOT IN CHINATOWN! JEWEL TREE CAFE! CALLING ALL CARS!...



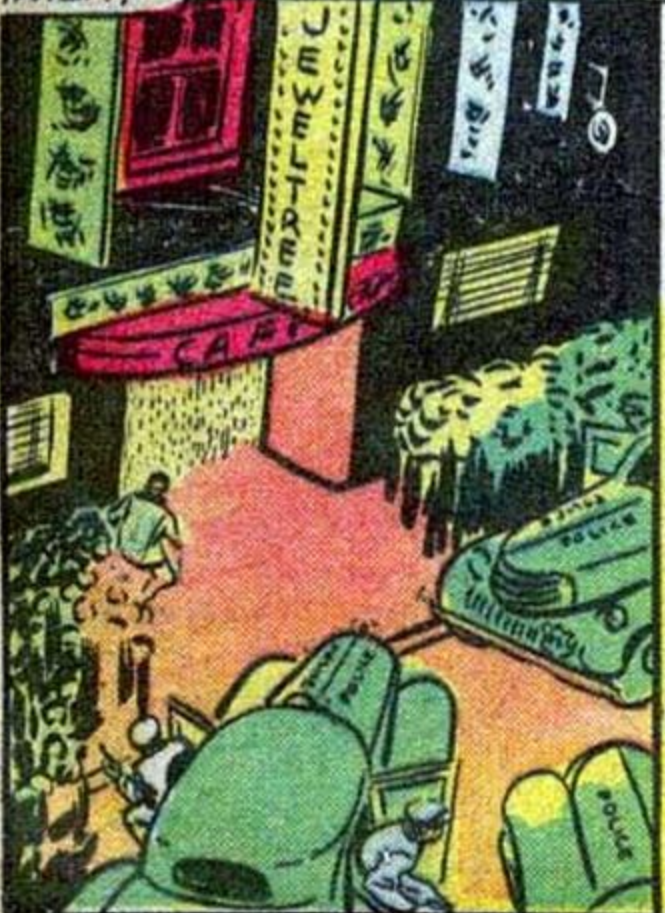
C'MON LOONEY! WE GOTTA PROTECT STEEL AND DORA!



WHO SENT YOU GUYS HERE? C'MON-TALK!



OUTSIDE-SQUAD CARS DISGORGE A HORDE OF ARMED POLICE-MEN!



NOBODY'S OUT HERE IN THE CAFE! LET'S LOOK IN THE KITCHEN! AND KEEP YOUR GUNS READY FOR TROUBLE!



OH, OH! HERE COME THE COPS! THAT MEANS IT'S TIME FOR ME TO MAKE A HASTY EXIT!





ANYHOW - I THINK I HAVE A CALL TO MAKE SOMEWHERE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!



WHAT A MESS THIS JOINT IS! IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY STEEL STERLING HAD BEEN HERE FIRST!



CLANCY! LOONEY!

HELLO, MISS DORA!

HERE WE ARE!



WE HEARD THERE WAS TROUBLE, SO WE RUSHED RIGHT OVER TO PROTECT YOU!

YEAH! WE THOUGHT YOU AND STEEL-



SHUT UP YOU DUNCE! NOBODY'S SUPPOSED TO KNOW STEEL WAS HERE! YOU FAT HEAD!



AH - HONORABLE MISS! I - AS OWNER OF THE JEWEL TREE CAFE - REGRET THE EVENING'S UNPLEASANTNESS! MAY I BESTOW THIS GIFT UPON YOU AS A TOKEN OF GOOD WILL?



IT'S AN EGG! A GREEN EGG! BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

IN CHINATOWN, IT IS A TOKEN OF PROSPERITY AND HAPPINESS FOR THE NEW YEAR! WE GIVE THEM TO OUR FRIENDS - AS YOU GIVE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!



YOU HANGS ON TO THAT GREEN EGG, DORA! IT'S LUCKY!

YES, SIR! DORA! YOU KEEP THAT GREEN EGG IT'S A GOOD LUCK EGG!





MEANWHILE...

HERE'S THE IMPORTING COMPANY THAT SOLD THE EGGS TO THE CAFE! I HAVE A HUNCH, I'LL FIND A CLUE HERE!



LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE ELSE HAS THE SAME IDEA!



WANT ME TO SHOOT THE EGGS TO YOU, YEGGS?



YOU'RE SOME OF THE BOYS WHO DROPPED INTO THE JEWEL TREE A WHILE AGO, AREN'T YOU? WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?



PLEASE! DO NOT DO US HARM! WE ARE ONLY EMPLOYED BY MISTER ROMERO! I SHALL TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY...



TANG, MEANWHILE HAS RETURNED TO THE ICE CREAM FACTORY...

GOOD BOY! THIS IS ONE OF 'EM!



OUTSIDE, DORA LISTENS AT THE DOOR!



OH! H-HELP! I-I WAS ONLY-

NO TALK TO ME! TALK TO BOSS!



WHO'S THE SKIRT, WING?

TANG KNOW! SHE IS THE ONE FROM WHOM I OBTAINED THE EGG!



WHAT MAKES YOU SO INQUISITIVE, SISTER? BETTER GIVE ME THE STRAIGHT GOODS!



IN THE STREET BELOW.

CLANCY-A CHINESE ICE CREAM FACTORY! LOOK!

GOSH! MAYBE WE CAN FIND SOME-ER-CLUES IN THERE!



I BET THERE'S SOME DANGEROUS CRIMINALS HIDING IN THERE. MAYBE VANILLA, EVEN! YOU SURROUND THE PLACE THAT WAY- AND I'LL GO THIS WAY!

OKAY!



CHINESE COSTUMES MASKS



THAT DOPE LOONEY WOULD NEVER THINK OF THIS! I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF!

I WANT TO BUY THAT MASK RIGHT THERE.



WOW! I'VE GOT A TERRIFIC IDEA!

HONG LEE SOU MASKS AND COSTUMES

AT THE OTHER END OF THE BLOCK!



SO SHE'S GOIN' TO KEEP HER YAP SHUT. IS SHE? SHE'LL OPEN UP WHEN WE PUSH THESE BAMBOO SLIVERS UNDER HER FINGERNAILS!



AND SET 'EM AFIRE!

THE MAN OF STEEL IS ALSO ON HIS WAY TO THE ICE CREAM FACTORY!



THIS IS THE PLACE THE BOYS GAVE ME THE TIP ON! THEY'D BETTER NOT BE LYING!

SOME OF YOUR FRIENDS TOLD ME I COULD GET SOME INFORMATION HERE! KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SOME GREEN EGGS?



AS STEEL QUESTIONS ONE OF THE GANG, ANOTHER SLIPS INTO THE INSIDE ROOM!



SPILL IT! WHAT KIND OF A JOINT IS THIS?

IS MAN OF STEEL IN ADJOINING ROOM? COME QUICK!



KEEP A CLOSE WATCH, TANG! AT THE SLIGHTEST OUTCRY-KNIFE HER!



ME DO!

STEEL STERLING! WELL, WELL! AND WHO DO I HAVE TO THANK FOR THIS VISIT? I AM HONORED I ASSURE YOU!



I KNOW WHO YOU ARE ROMERO - YOU'VE BEEN RUN IN MORE THAN ONCE FOR DOPE PEDDLING! NOW COME CLEAN - WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT A SERIES OF KILLINGS BECAUSE OF SOME GREEN CHINESE EGGS!



GREEN EGGS? I KNOW NOTHING!

LEFT ALONE WITH TANG, DORA MAKES A DESPERATE BID FOR HER LIFE!



YOU SHOULDN'T BE HELPING A WHITE CRIMINAL, TANG!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO CHINESE WHO ARE UNFAITHFUL TO THEIR GODS? I'LL TELL YOU - SOONER OR LATER THEIR GODS COME AFTER THEM! AND WHEN THEY DO-



CLANCY, MEANWHILE HAS DISGUISED HIMSELF, AND IS LOOKING FOR "CLUES"—EVEN VANILLA, OR MAYBE CHOCOLATE...



APPROACHING THE SAME CORNER IS LOONEY—ALSO ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR "CLUES"—EVEN STRAWBERRY!



THE HEAVY MASK MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR CLANCY AND LOONEY TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER—



AND WHEN THAT ANGRY GOD COMES FOR YOU, HE'LL—WHAT'S THE MATTER?

YIII!
IS HERE NOW!



CLANCY REGAINS HIS FEET AND SETS OFF AFTER HIS ATTACKER!





THIS CHAIR IS CERTAINLY WELL-BUILT TO TAKE IT LIKE THIS!



LOOK WHAT CAME IN THROUGH THE WINDOW!



!!



PROWL CARS HEARING THE COMMOTION, SURROUND THE FACTORY AND SQUADS OF POLICE MOVE IN...



NOW LISTEN, KIDS... THE COPS WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE! THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO LEAVE! BUT HERE'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CASE!



OKAY STEEL! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING... SO LONG!



THE POLICE INVADE THE ROOM A FEW MINUTES LATER... SO WHEN I FOUND THAT DEAD GUY PARKED IN HIS CAR, I HAD THE CASE ALL FIGURED...



THIS THUG, ROMERO, HAS BEEN IN THE COOLER BEFORE FOR PEDDLING NARCOTICS! THIS TIME, HE THOUGHT HE WAS TOO CLEVER FOR US!

HERE'S HOW HE WORKED HIS RACKET, LIEUTENANT! HE HAD HIS AGENTS IN CHINA PUT POWDERED DOPE IN THESE HOLLOW EGGS AND THEN SHIP THEM HERE... BUT SOMEHOW, THE CAFE GOT HOLD OF THE EGGS BY MISTAKE!



SEE? IT'S FULL OF DOPE! THEY PUNCH A LITTLE HOLE IN THE EGG AND BLOW THE INSIDES OUT! THEN THEY PUT DOPE IN THE HOLE AND SEAL IT UP AGAIN!



SO THEN THE TRAIL LED ME DOWN HERE TO CHINA-TOWN! THEN... BLAH BLAH (AND SO I TOLD CLANCY TO FOLLOW ME, AND...)



WELL, THAT CLEARS UP ANOTHER MYSTERY! ARE YOU READY TO LEAVE?

NO, SIR! WE PAID GOOD MONEY FOR THESE OUTFITS AND WE'RE GONNA HAVE SOME FUN AND JOIN THE PARADE!



GLIP GOOGLE GIRP! GOOG-GYE!



KIRIP! GLIM!



GOOBLE GOB GOOMER!

GIP GLEM GOO!



HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

THE PUPPET MASTER OF DEATH IS ON THE LOOSE AGAIN! GARGIULO, THE ARCH FIEND WHO NEARLY OUTWITTED STEEL STERLING IN THEIR FIRST ENCOUNTER HOLDS THE LIVES OF STEEL STERLING'S FRIENDS HANGING ON SLENDER THREADS - THREADS CONTROLLED BY THE PUPPET MASTER HIMSELF! BE SURE TO READ THE JULY ISSUE TO ZIP COMICS!

THE CASE OF THE MILLIONAIRE SAILOR

A STEEL STERLING STORY

It was Clancy who discovered the body of Lee Wyeth, the millionaire yachtsman, lying in a pool of water on the Wyeth estate.

On the tennis courts not far away, Steel Sterling was sitting with Dora Cummings and their hostess—Jane Wyeth—who had invited them all to her father's estate for the week-end. They were all having a good laugh at Looney, who was trying to play tennis, when they first heard the shrill blasts from Clancy's whistle.

In a flash, they were all on their way towards the pool—but Steel was there far ahead of the rest. A hasty examination showed him that Wyeth was not drowned; he was stabbed to death by a blunt instrument. But the surprising thing was that Wyeth was there at all! He was supposed to be several hundred miles away, sailing on his yacht!

* * * * *

It developed that there were several men who could have committed the crime. One was Vic Severs, who was in love with Jane Wyeth, but couldn't marry her because her father didn't like him. He had just had a row with Paul La Porte, Wyeth's secretary, about that very thing.

"Where is La Porte?" Steel asked, and the guests looked at each other in amazement. Paul La Porte was nowhere to be found!

* * * * *

While Clancy and Looney were on the trail of La Porte, Steel ran into town to take care of some family affairs for Jane Wyeth. First, he stopped off at the law offices of Arthur Toro, who handled all of Mr. Wyeth's legal affairs. Steel burst into the office and found the lawyer sitting at his desk.

"Mr. Wyeth has been murdered," Steel drawled.

"What! . . . That's terrible!" the lawyer exclaimed. "What was he killed with?"

Steel's eyes narrowed for a moment and then he talked on. As he spoke, the lawyer toyed nervously with several things on his desk. Finally, Sterling rose casually and suddenly clamped a hand on the surprised lawyer.

"I'm holding you for the murder of Mr. Wyeth!" Steel shouted. Toro attempted to escape, but he was no match for the Man of Steel. Sterling picked the lawyer up and shook him as a terrier shakes a rat. "Where is La Porte?" he demanded.

"He's dead, too!" Toro gasped. "I'll confess! I'll tell everything! But put me down! . . . My throat . . ." He sighed as Steel dropped him to the floor.

* * * * *

When Steel found Clancy and Looney—those ace detectives—in the act of investigating two suspicious vanilla sodas, he told them the story.

"Paul La Porte got word to Wyeth, by short wave, to come home at once. He had discovered that Toro had stolen large sums of money. However, the lawyer found out La Porte had contacted Wyeth, so he laid in wait for them. First he stabbed Wyeth and threw his body in the pool. Then, he got rid of La Porte!"

"But how'd you trap Toro?" Clancy asked.

"When I told him Wyeth was murdered, he asked me what he was killed with! If he hadn't known Wyeth was back from sea, he would have supposed he'd been drowned! In that case, he wouldn't have asked what he'd been killed with!"

"Well, what was he killed with?" Looney asked.

"A paper knife," said Steel. "I saw it on Wyeth's desk. It was the only thing in his office that was newly cleaned and polished. Everything else was old and dirty. So I knew that it was clean because it had once had blood on it!"

"G-g-gosh!" Looney spluttered. "I can't see how you solve these cases!"

"I do it by staying out of ice cream parlors," Steel smiled. "Do you get it, boys?"

[THE END]



MAN OF STEEL

STERLING EARLING



IN THE ISSUE NOW ON SALE,
THE MAN OF STEEL
SMASHES INTO A BLOOD-TINGLING ADVENTURE
WITH GARGUILO-THE PUPPET-MASTER OF DEATH!
'PAY UP OR DIE!' WAS THE ORDER GARGUILO ISSUED TO
THE MEMBERS OF THE MILLIONAIRE'S CLUB! HOW
COULD STERLING FIGHTING ALONE, COPE WITH THIS
MAN MONSTER, WHEN A THOUSAND BLOODLESS ZOMBIES
OBEYED THE PUPPET MASTERS EVERY WHIM!

LOOK AT THIS LINE-UP OF ACTION PACKED
FEATURES THAT APPEAR IN EVERY ISSUE OF

ZIP COMICS



CAPTAIN VALOR



RED REAGAN



ZAMBINI



DICKY IN THE MAGIC FOREST



THE SCARLET
AVENGER



NEVADA
JONES

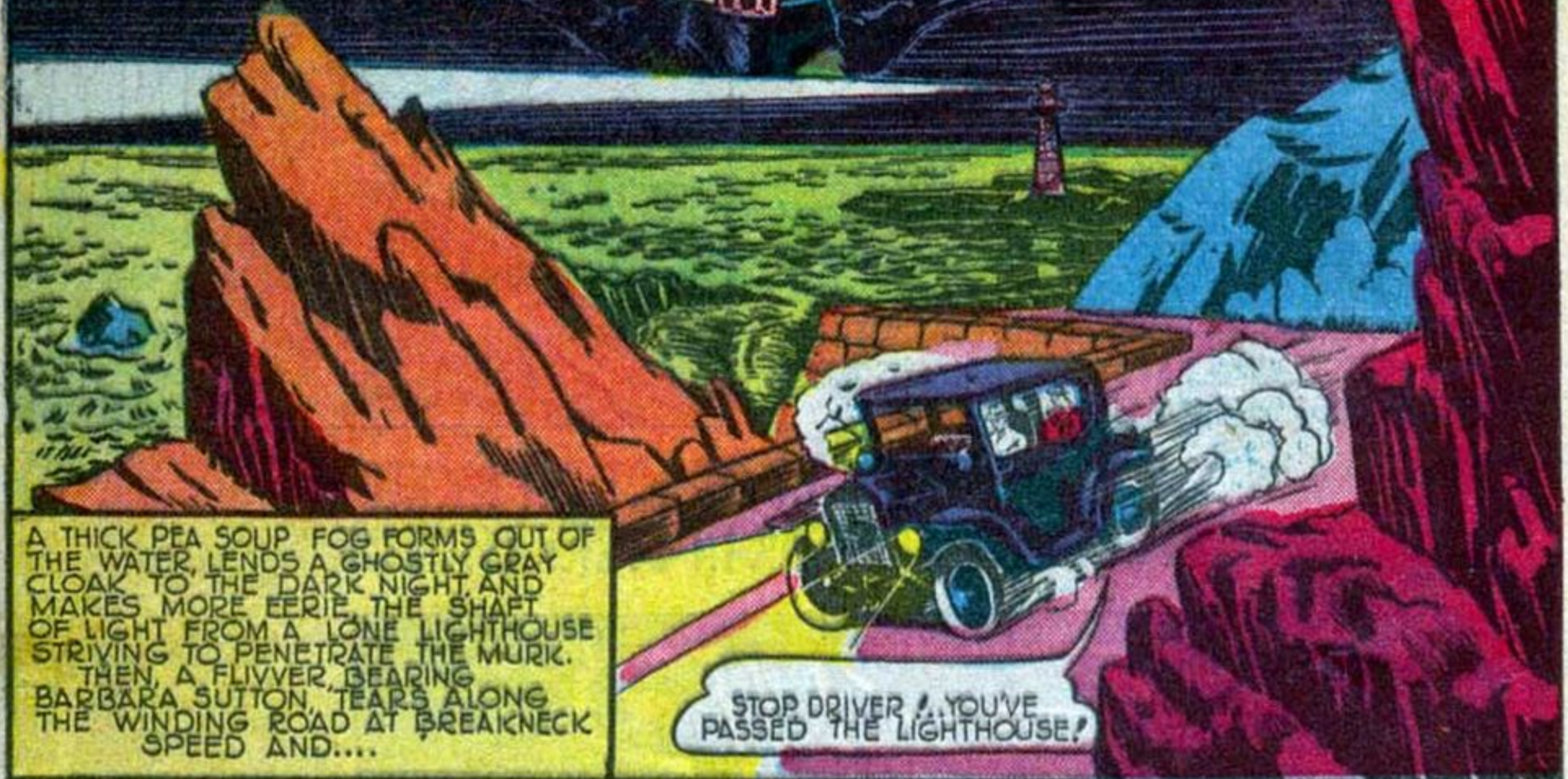


WAR EAGLES
FEATURING THE
DEVIL'S FLYING TWINS

FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES
OF THIS LINE UP OF CHAMPIONS
EVERY MONTH IN ZIP COMICS

THE BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY



A THICK PEA SOUP FOG FORMS OUT OF THE WATER, LENDS A GHOSTLY GRAY CLOAK TO THE DARK NIGHT, AND MAKES MORE EERIE THE SHAFT OF LIGHT FROM A LONE LIGHTHOUSE STRIVING TO PENETRATE THE MURK. THEN, A FLIVVER, BEARING BARBARA SUTTON, TEARS ALONG THE WINDING ROAD AT BREAKNECK SPEED AND...

STOP DRIVER! YOU'VE PASSED THE LIGHTHOUSE!



NUTHIN' DOIN' MISS! I'M NOT STOPPIN' ANYWHERE NEAR THAT PLACE!

BUT WHY?



YOU'LL FIND OUT! THERE'S THE TOWN JUDGE'S HOUSE! MAYBE HE'LL TAKE YOU THERE... I WON'T!

ALL RIGHT, THEN! I'LL ASK HIM!



I HOPE HE'S NOT ASLEEP!



BLESS ME! A YOUNG LADY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT?

I'M VISITING MY UNCLE, THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER!... BUT MY DRIVER REFUSED TO TAKE ME THERE FOR SOME PECULIAR REASON!



IN FACT WHEN I CAME TO THE VILLAGE, I MENTIONED THE LIGHTHOUSE, AND EVERYBODY REFUSED TO TALK TO ME! IT WAS AS THOUGH THEY WERE TERRIFIED!

THEY ARE! THEY'RE A SUPERSTITIOUS LOT, YOU KNOW, AND THEY THINK THE LIGHTHOUSE IS THE HOME OF THE LORELEI!



THE LEGEND OF THE LORELEI IS THAT OF A BEAUTIFUL MERMAID WHO LURED SAILORS TO THEIR DEATH! WELL, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF SHIP-WRECKS THERE... AND NO SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN FOUND! SMALL WONDER THEY THINK IT'S HAUNTED! I ALMOST BELIEVE THAT MYSELF!



YES SIR!

PLEASE DON'T!

IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO GO THERE TONIGHT! I CAN PUT YOU UP! TAKE HER BAGS TO THE GUEST ROOM, GEORGE!



I'D RATHER GO TO SEE MY UNCLE TONIGHT IF YOU DON'T MIND. I'M NOT A BIT SCARED OF THIS LORELEI SUPERSTITION!

VERY WELL, I'LL TAKE YOU THERE MYSELF!



WELL, HERE WE ARE! THANK YOU SO MUCH, JUDGE! I'LL BE ALL RIGHT, NOW!

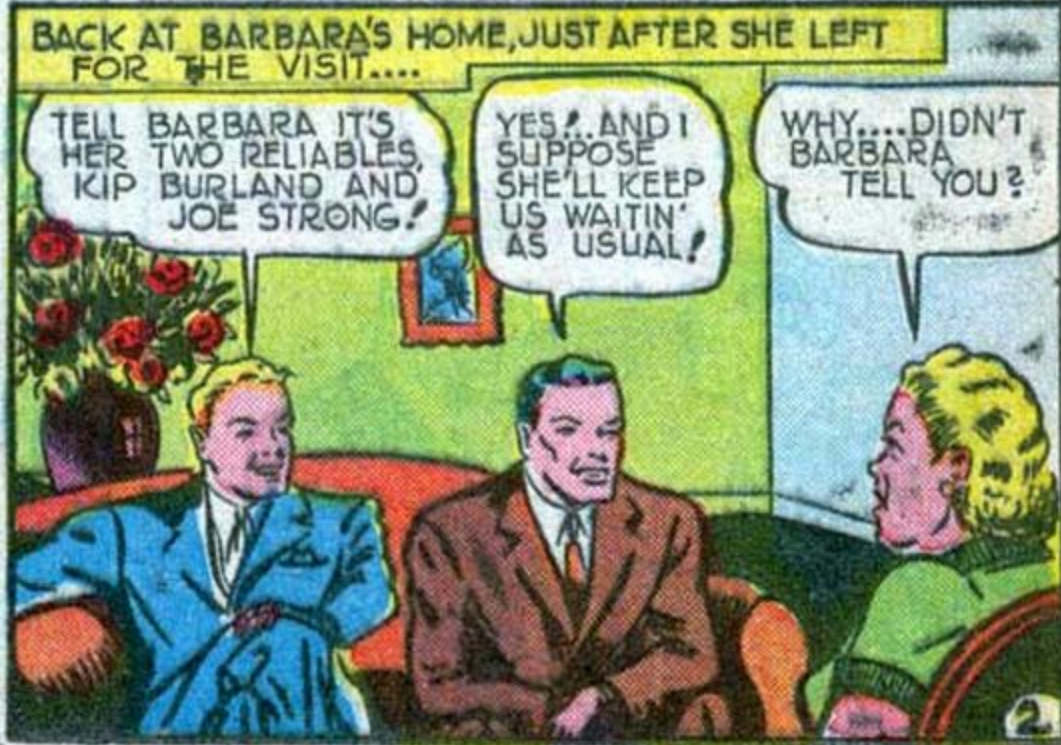
ALL RIGHT! GOOD-NIGHT, MISS SUTTON!



WHEW! I DIDN'T KNOW A LIGHTHOUSE HAD SO MANY STAIRS! OH, UNCLE BILL! STRANGE.. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYONE AROUND!



I'LL JUST WAIT FOR HIM IN THIS ROOM!... WHAT WAS THAT?... THE DOOR! HOW COULD IT HAVE SLAMMED SHUT? THERE'S NO WIND!



BACK AT BARBARA'S HOME, JUST AFTER SHE LEFT FOR THE VISIT....

TELL BARBARA IT'S HER TWO RELIABLES, KIP BURLAND AND JOE STRONG!

YES! AND I SUPPOSE SHE'LL KEEP US WAITIN' AS USUAL!

WHY... DIDN'T BARBARA TELL YOU?



SHE LEFT FOR A VISIT TO MY BROTHER-IN-LAW WILLIAM HENDERS, A LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER, ON DOUGHTY'S ISLAND!

WHAT?

I'LL BE...SHE NEVER TOLD US!



HOW DO YA LIKE THAT FER A DAME!...JUST WALKS OUT ON US WITHOUT A WORD!

YEAH! THEY'RE ALL ALIKE...FICKLE AS THE WINDS!



YOU BET!...I'M OFFA THEM FOR LIFE!

ME, TOO!...WELL, SO LONG, JOE!



LATER...

HAW, HAW! THIS IS THE ONLY BOAT LEAVING FOR DOUGHTY'S ISLAND FOR A WEEK!... I SURE FOOLED THAT BURLAND SAP!



BOY OBOY! A WHOLE WEEK WITH BARBARA... ALONE! WOTTA CHANCE TO GET HER TO MARRY ME!

THERE'S A RAINBOW 'ROUND MY SHOULDER



NOW I'LL GO ON DECK AND GET ME A LITTLE AIR... OOPS!... SORRY... HEY YOU... KIP BURLAND!

WELL WELL, JOE STRONG! 'TWO MINDS WITH A SINGLE THOUGHT, EH?



WHAT ARE YA, A MAN OR A MOUSE! DIDN'CHA SAY YOU WERE OFFA WOMEN, FOR LIFE? ANSWER ME, DIDN'CHA?

DIDN'T YOU?



THAT NIGHT...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, JOE... A LITTLE SEASICK?

SHUT UP 'N GO TO SLEEP WILL YA?... OWOOO!

THE PITCHING BOAT SUDDENLY CAUSES THE DOOR TO FLY OPEN AND A FIGURE STUMBLES THROUGH



"SCUSE ME, MATEYS!..MUSTA LOST MY SEA LEGS!...STRANGE HOW EVERYTIME WE COME NEAR THE LIGHTHOUSE ON DOUGHTY'S ISLAND, A STORM BLOWS UP!"

WHAT'S SO STRANGE ABOUT THAT?



FOLKS AROUND THERE SAY IT'S THE LORELEI THAT WHIPS UP THE SEA AND DRIVES THE SHIPS AGAINST THE REEFS!..COURSE I DON'T SAY YES 'N I DON'T SAY NO... BUT IT SURE IS MIGHTY STRANGE!"



CLOSER AND CLOSER THE STORM-TOSSED SHIP COMES TO THE LIGHTHOUSE, WHOSE GIANT BLINKING EYE SENDS AN UNEARTHLY GLOW OUT ONTO THE WATERS!

SUDDENLY...

THE LIGHT! IT'S GONE OUT!.. STEER YOUR COURSE BY THOSE BUOYS!... THANK HEAVENS WE CAN SEE THEM!

AYE, AYE CAPTAIN!



THE HELMSMAN GUIDES HIS COURSE BY THE LUMINESCENT BUOYS...AND SUDDENLY A CLIFF LOOMS OUT OF THE DARK....

AS THE BOAT CRASHES INTO THE CLIFF ARMED MEN LEAP FROM AN OVERJUTTING LEDGE ONTO THE DECKS...



STAND WHERE YOU ARE, EVERYBODY...OR I'LL MOW YOU DOWN!

KEEP 'EM COVERED! WE'LL GO BELOW AND GET THE REST OF THEM!

P...PIRATES!

WH... WHA...





TSK! TSK!... JUST AS I THOUGHT... A GLASS CHIN!

BUT A DARK FIGURE SEEMINGLY BORN OF THE NIGHT SWOOPS INTO THE SCENE... .. THE BLACK HOOD...

UGH!



I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU, TOO!

HE'S GOT SLOAN!

KILL HIM!

BANG

BANG



AND NOW DROP YOUR GUNS OR... GREAT SCOT! THAT IDIOT, JOE STRONG'S RIGHT IN MY LINE OF FIRE!

HEY!.. WHAT'S ALL THE SHOOTIN' FOR?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO.. BUT I AIN'T GONNA LET YA GET AWAY!



HAALP! MY FOOT'S CAUGHT! HAALP!



MAN THE LIFE-BOATS! WERE SINKING FAST!

TAKE IT EASY, LAME BRAIN! I'LL HAVE YOU UP SOON!

WHO YA CALLIN' LAME BRAIN!.. HOW DID YOU GET HERE ANYWAY?



HEY! WHERE YA GOIN?

AFTER THOSE PIRATES! YOU BETTER GET OFF THIS SHIP, FAST!



OKAY, YOU GUYS!.. TAKE IT EASY, AND NOBODY'LL GET HURT! ...IS EVERYBODY IN THE LIFE BOATS?

WHO DOES THAT GUY THINK HE IS.. THE CAPTAIN?

SUDDENLY A SWINGING BOOM CATCHES JOE FROM BEHIND!



WHAT IN H HELP!

THAT MOMENT, BACK IN THE LIGHTHOUSE WHERE BARBARA IS IMPRISONED!



IT'S NO USE! THIS HAIRPIN WON'T OPEN THIS LOCK. OH, GOLLY! THERE IT GOES! DID IT!

BARBARA SLIPS QUIETLY INTO THE NEXT ROOM, AND-



IF I CAN ONLY REACH THE STAIRCASE BEFORE THEY TURN AND SEE ME!

ESCAPING UNDETECTED SHE RUNS MADLY ACROSS THE BEACH!



I HEARD THEIR WHOLE VILLAINOUS PLOT THROUGH THE DOOR! I MUST RUN AND GET HELP!

GOOD LORD! A SURVIVOR FROM THE WRECKED VESSEL! WH WHY? IT'S JOE STRONG!



GLUB! HELP!

HE'S ALL IN! I'LL DRAG HIM UP ON THE BEACH AND TRY TO REVIVE HIM!



MOTHER MUST HAVE TOLD HIM WHERE I WENT AND HE FOLLOWED ON THE BOAT THAT WAS WRECKED! I WONDER IF KIP BURLAND WAS WITH HIM?



GLUP SPUTTER HEY GLUP WH WHERE AM I?

JUST THEN-



THE BLACK HOOD! HE MUSTA SOCKED ME WHEN I WASN'T LOOKIN

I DIDN'T! BUT YOU DESERVED IT!



THIS LORELEI BUSINESS IS JUST A COVER UP FOR A GANG OF PIRATES OPERATING AROUND THIS LIGHTHOUSE!...

OH! NOW I KNOW WHAT THEY MEANT BY THE "NEXT SHIP"!



BARBARA TELLS THE HOOD THE WHOLE STORY -

AND WHILE I WAS IN THE OTHER ROOM, I HEARD THEM PLOTTING TO WRECK ANOTHER SHIP HEADED THIS WAY!



YOU TWO GO TO THE JUDGES HOUSE AND HAVE HIM CALL THE POLICE FROM THE VILLAGE. I'M GOING UP TO THE LIGHTHOUSE AND GET THOSE FELLOWS!

ALL RIGHT, HOOD!



LET'S THUMB A RIDE FROM THIS GUY... HOLY MACKERAL! LOOKIT HIM SCOOT PAST!

IT'S NO USE, JOE! NOBODY'LL STOP NEAR THIS PLACE. WE'LL HAVE TO WALK!



WHILE IN THE LIGHTHOUSE -

HEY! THE DAME'S ESCAPED!

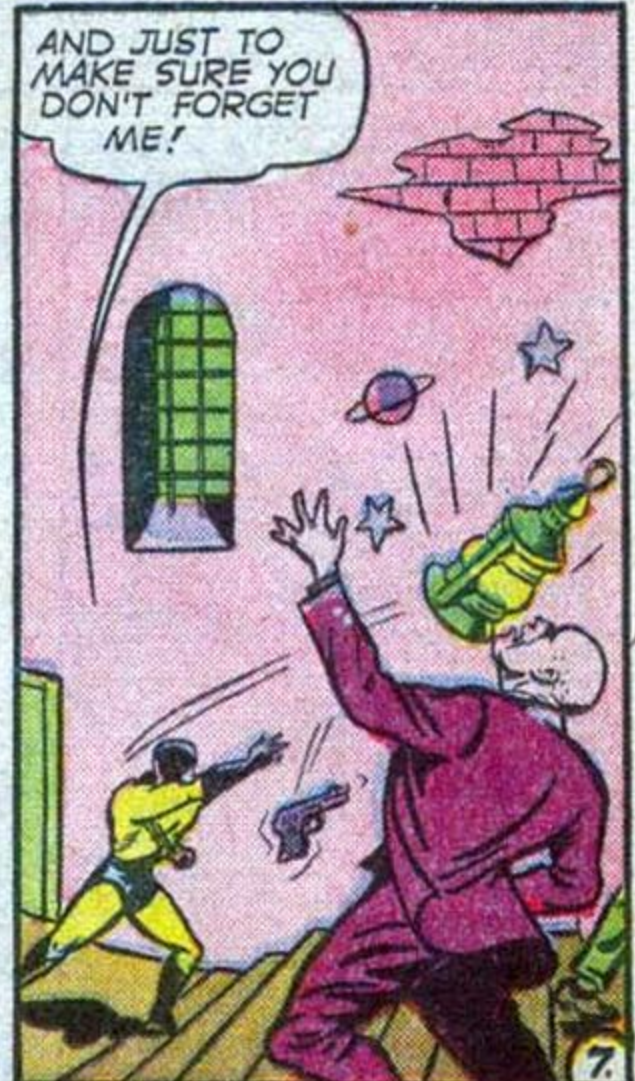


MAYBE WE CAN SNATCH HER YET! C'MON!



THE BLACK HOOD! GIVE IT TO 'IM, QUICK!

WELL. THEY SEEM TO BE ACQUAINTED WITH ME ANYWAY!



AND JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T FORGET ME!

BEFORE THEY CAN REGAIN THEIR BALANCE, THE BLACK HOOD LAUNCHES HIMSELF UPWARD-



YOU BOYS SEEM TO BE HAVING YOUR UPS AND DOWNS TONIGHT!



OKAY! NOW YOU CAN RELAX! I'M TAKING OVER!



THIS MUST BE THE ROOM BARBARA SAID THEY HAVE A RADIO IN. WHAT WOULD THEY WANT WITH A RADIO IN A LIGHT HOUSE?



GREAT GHOSTS! THIS IS A RADIO INTERCEPTOR. THAT'S HOW THEY PREVENTED ALL THE SINKING SHIPS FROM SENDING OUT SOS MESSAGES!



SO ABSORBED IS THE HOOD IN HIS INVESTIGATIONS, THAT HE FAILS TO DETECT THE PIRATES SNEAKING UP FROM BEHIND!



HOW D'YA LIKE THESE APPLES?

TOSS 'IM INTO THE DRINK! HE WON'T BOTHER US AGAIN.



THE HOOD LANDS IN THE OCEAN WITH BONE-BREAKING FORCE!



UNCONSCIOUS, HE IS PICKED UP BY GREAT WAVES -



AND MIRACULOUSLY WASHED ASHORE. BUT THE GIANT-MUSCLED FRAME OF THE BLACK KNIGHT LIES OMINOUSLY STILL AS THE WAVES LAP OVER HIM. HAS HE AT LAST MET HIS MAKER?



MEANWHILE--

MISS SUTTON!... WHY YOU'RE TREMBLING! WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE AGAIN? WHERE'S YOUR UNCLE?

I DON'T KNOW! A BAND OF PIRATES HAVE TAKEN OVER THE LIGHTHOUSE! THEY HELD ME PRISONER!



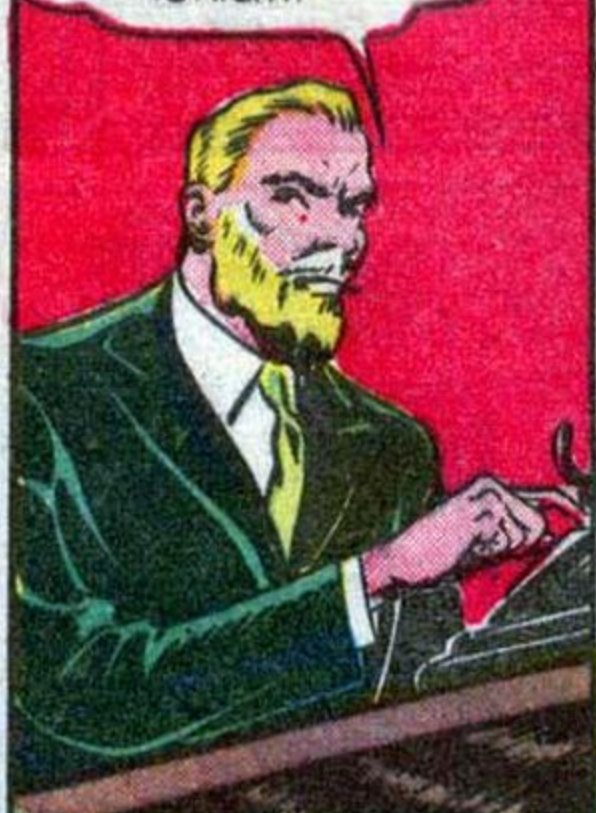
IT IS THEY WHO ARE WRECKING THE SHIPS - NOT GHOSTS!... AND THEY'RE PLANNING TO WRECK ANOTHER ONE TONIGHT!

YEAH! WHERE'S YOUR PHONE?

IT... IT'S FANTASTIC!



I'LL CALL THE VILLAGE FOR HELP MYSELF! WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS TONIGHT!



HELLO! HELLO! CHIEF OF POLICE? A PLOT TO WRECK AN APPROACHING SHIP AND LOOT IT HAS JUST BEEN DISCOVERED! DO YOU UNDERSTAND? IT'S JUST BEEN DISCOVERED. AND THERE'LL BE NO MORE AFTER TONIGHT!



BUT THE JUDGES CALL IS MADE TO THE LIGHTHOUSE - NOT THE VILLAGE.

WHAT'S THAT! WHAT'RE YA TALKING ABOUT, BOSS! ARE YOU NUTS? WE'RE NOT COPPERS 'N...



OH, OH! I GET IT, NOW! THE PLOTS BEEN DISCOVERED, AND THERE'LL BE NO MORE AFTER TONIGHT! PLENTY SLICK (HEH, HEH) WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!







THE VILLAGERS! WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

HEY! WHATSA IDEA BUSTIN' IN THIS WAY?

JUDGE WE WANT YOU!



YOU'RE EITHER WITH US OR AGAINST US, JUDGE! WHICH IS IT?

PEPHAPS I HAD BETTER GO ALONG TO PREVENT VIOLENCE!

SURE IT'S OKAY! I'LL STAY BEHIND AND TAKE CARE O' YOUR PROPERTY!



WELL, S'LONG! 'N DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING!



IN THE MEANTIME!

WHY THIS ISN'T THE ROAD TO THE VILLAGE! YOU'RE TAKING ME TO THE LIGHTHOUSE!

SHUT UP!

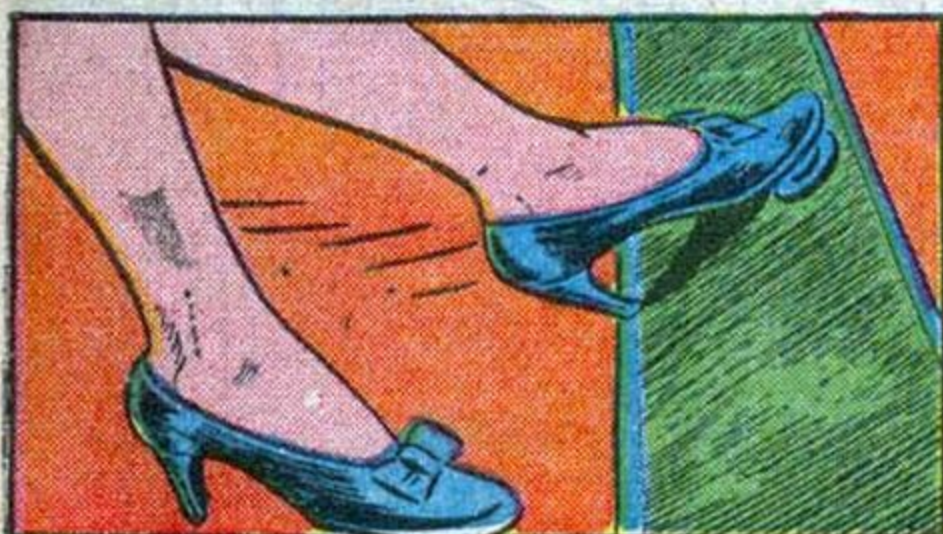


SURE I'M TAKIN' YOU THERE AND IF YOU WANT TO GET THERE ALIVE, JUST DO AS I SAY!



SO YOUR MASTER, THE JUDGE IS BEHIND THIS WHOLE THING!

YOU CAN THINK WHAT YOU WANT-BUT KEEP YOUR LIP BUTTONEED!



SUDDENLY, BARBARA JAMS HER FOOT AGAINST THE BRAKE PEDAL.



THE SERVANT CAUGHT OFF GUARD, IS THROWN VIOLENTLY AGAINST THE WINDSHIELD AS THE CAR JERKS TO A SUDDEN STOP!

CRASH!

OOOFF!

BARBARA GRABS THE UNCONSCIOUS SERVANT'S GUN AND MAKES FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE



THE JUDGE DIDN'T CALL THE VILLAGE AT ALL, THEN. I MUST STOP THEM FROM WRECKING THE SHIP!

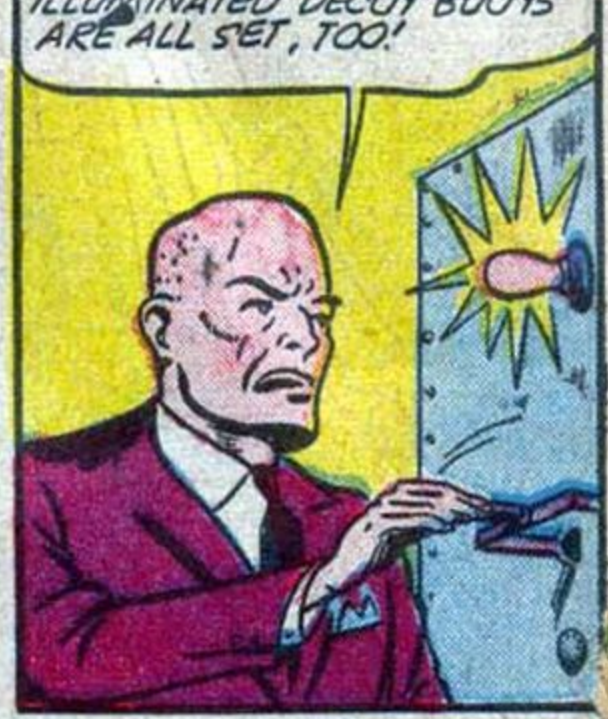
IN THE LIGHTHOUSE-



ANY SIGN OF THE SHIP, YET?

YEAH! IT'S COMING NOW!

OKAY! I'LL SWITCH OFF THE BEACON LIGHT! THOSE ILLUMINATED DECOY BUOYS ARE ALL SET, TOO!



NO YOU DON'T! KEEP THAT BEACON LIT, OR I'LL KILL YOU!



D..DON'T SHOOT! WE'LL DO LIKE YOU SAY!



WITH THE BEACON ON, THE SHIP SOON PASSES BEYOND THE PERILOUS REEFS- AND TO SAFETY!

ALL RIGHT, NOW! STAY WHERE YOU ARE. I'M LEAVING NOW!



JUST THEN, THE SERVANT, WHO HAS RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS, COMES RUNNING UP THE STEPS!



DROP THAT GUN!

THE PIRATES TAKE ADVANTAGE OF BARBARA'S DISTRACTION!

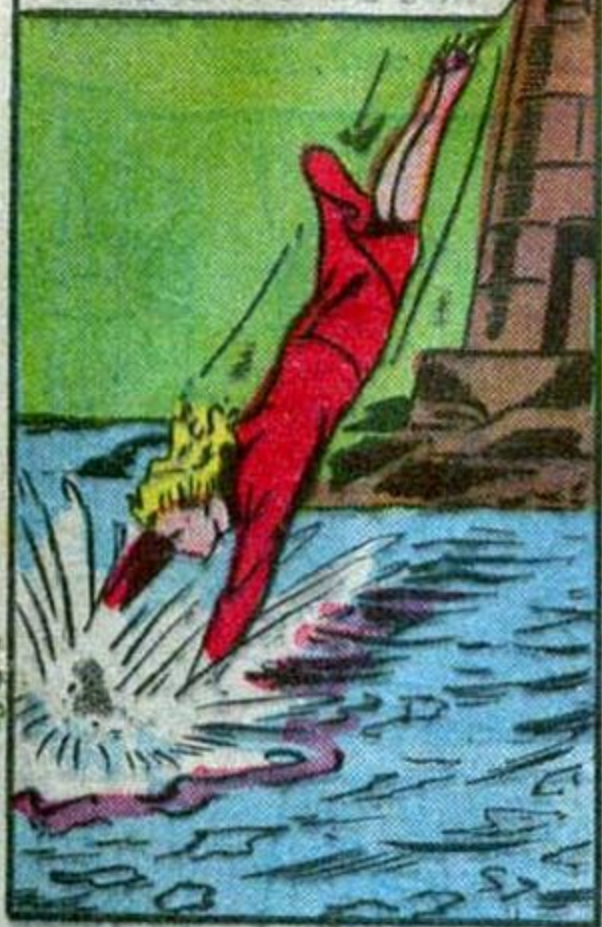


DAME OR NO DAME, YOU GET YOURS!

BANG

OOO! MY HAND!

CORNERED BARBARA MAKES A DESPERATE BID FOR SAFETY...AND LEAPS INTO THE SEA!



HOPE I CAN MAKE IT TO THE SHORE! THE TIDES ARE VERY STRONG (PUFF PUFF) DARN IT!... THE SEA WEED FLOATING AROUND, IS HAMPERING ME!



JUST AS BARBARA REACHES THE BEACH...



IN HEAVEN'S NAME! A WOMAN COVERED WITH SEAWEED?... IT MUST BE THE LORELEI!



I WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT IF I WEREN'T SEEING IT WITH MY OWN EYES! IT IS THE LORELEI! AT HER, MEN! KILL THE WITCH! NO COURT WOULD CONDEMN YOU FOR IT!



MEANWHILE, FURTHER DOWN THE BEACH THE STILL FIGURE OF THE BLACK HOOD SUDDENLY MOVES... THE SMOULDERING FLAME OF LIFE IS FANNED BY HIS TREMENDOUS VITALITY!



OOO...WH..WHERE AM I?...REMEMBER NOW...THE PIRATES!



WHAT WAS THAT? A SCREAM! IT SOUNDED LIKE BARBARA'S VOICE!



NO! HELP! HELP!

WROUGHT UP TO A PITCH BEYOND REASONING, THE VILLAGERS ARE VICTIMIZED BY THE JUDGE'S MURDEROUS SCHEME...

HOLD HER STILL! I'LL PUT A BULLET THROUGH HER CURSED WITCH'S HEART AND PUT AN END TO HER!

NO! PLEASE! IT'S A TRICK! YOU MUST BELIEVE ME!



BUT BEFORE THE JUDGE CAN PRESS THE TRIGGER...

EASY WITH THAT POP-GUN, MISTER!

TH... THE BLACK HOOD!



ANXIOUS TO GET US OUT OF THE WAY AREN'T YOU?

HE'S IN, WITH HER MEN! LET'S GET BOTH OF THEM!



YES! BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT I KNOW HE'S THE LEADER OF THE PIRATE GANG!

IT'S ABSURD! SHE'S TRICKY I TELL YOU, KILL HER!



JUST THEN...

HEY, JUDGE! (PUFF PUFF) I CHASED YA CLEAN FROM YER HOME! YA DROPPED THIS!



IT LOOKED LIKE IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT... SOMETHING TO DO WITH SHIP INSURANCE, I THINK! TOLD YA I'D LOOK AFTER YER VALUABLES DIDN'T I?

SHUT UP YOU FOOL! GIVE ME THAT PAPER!



NOT SO FAST JUDGE! LET'S ALL HAVE A LOOK AT IT FIRST!

Y... YOU CAN'T! IT'S PRIVATE! GIVE IT TO ME!



HMM! NO WONDER IT'S SO PRIVATE! IT'S A DECLARATION OF THE INSURANCE RATES ON THE CARGOES OF SHIPS!

WHAT OF IT?



JUST THIS... IT PROVES THAT YOU REALLY ARE BEHIND THIS BAND! YOU KNEW JUST WHAT SHIPS HAD THE MOST VALUABLE CARGO BY THIS INSURANCE INFORMATION WHICH YOU WERE ABLE TO GET!





AND THAT EXPLAINS HOW HE'S ABLE TO LIVE IN SUCH STYLE WHEN THE VILLAGE PAYS HIM SO SMALL A SALARY!

NOW, WAIT A MINUTE! DON'T LOSE YOUR HEADS!

WE WON'T, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO... AT THE END OF A ROPE! LET'S LYNCH HIM!



HOLD ON, MEN! I WON'T ALLOW ANY ROUGH STUFF, NOW!

YOU WON'T, WHO ARE YOU?



I'M THE GUY WHO'S TAKIN' CHARGE O' THINGS FROM HERE ON... AND I SAY THAT COME HADES OR HIGH-WATER, I'LL.....



SUDDENLY A GIANT WAVE REACHES THE ROCK ON WHICH JOE STANDS, AND...

HEY! WHA!...



THE GOOF'S HALF-DROWNED!

GLUB ULLFF!

POOR JOE! ALWAYS GETTING INTO TROUBLE!



IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE BLACK HOOD... WH..WHY..HE'S GONE!

THE HECK WITH HIM!.. GOOD THING I GOT HERE IN TIME TO SAVE YOU!



ME 'N KIP STARTED OUT AFTER YOU! I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE THE BOAT WAS WRECKED... HOPE HE GOT OFF!

KIP BURLAND? GOOD HEAVENS! I'D NO IDEA HE WAS HERE TOO! LET'S GO BACK THE VILLAGE AND LOOK FOR HIM!



IN THE VILLAGE...

THEY'RE ALL IN THAT TAVERN!

CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE ALL THE SURVIVORS ARE?



HAW HAW! KIP IN DANGER! LOOKA HIM WARMIN' HIS TOOTSIES... WHY THAT SISSY COULDN'T EVEN CATCH A COLD!

HELLO BABS! HELLO JOE!.. BRE... I HAD A NARROW ESCAPE!

THE BLACK HOOD APPEARS IN EVERY 15TH SUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS "THE MAGAZINE THAT NEVER LETS YOU DOWN" YOU PARTICULARLY WON'T WANT TO MISS THE WEIRDEST MOST NERVE-CHILLING ADVENTURE THE BLACK HOOD HAS EVER ENCOUNTERED. FEATURED IN THE CURRENT TOP NOTCH ISSUE. BUY IT AND YOU'VE BOUGHT THE TOPS IN READING PLEASURE!

THE SUICIDE WHO DIED TWICE

A BLACK HOOD STORY

Kip Burland watched with apparent disinterest the group gathered in the library. Barbara Sutton, by whose invitation he now found himself a week-end guest of her uncle, John Sutton, stood next to him, her face drawn with horror. For it was John Sutton, who now lay on the floor, the blood pouring from a grisly pistol wound in his temple, making a horrible stain on the rich rug.

The police stood over James Griswold, sitting mopping his sweaty head. Haggard, distraught.

"I knew this would happen," he was saying. "I've been his broker for years. And his best friend too. Then tonight I came to say goodbye to John, for I'm to leave for Bermuda shortly. He was more melancholy than usual. Suddenly, he took his gun from the drawer, and put it to his head. I struggled with him. But he struck me. I was stunned; and . . ." his voice trailed off and he dug his head into his hands.

"Okay, take it easy, Mr. Griswold. You did the best you could," the detective said. "This suicide note puts you in the clear. You can go now." Then he turned and snarled, "Hey, dummy, stay away from that body." Kip moved obediently away. "I . . . I didn't mean any harm," he stammered. "Just looking."

Griswold walked from the room, his shoulders sagging. The detective said, "Poor guy. He's sure broken up about it."

The broker climbed into his convertible, and a curious change came over him. No longer did he appear grief stricken. Instead, a sardonic grin creased his countenance. "The fools," he muttered. "I outwitted them perfectly."

His mind slipped briefly into the past and he remembered how he'd first hit on the plan of killing John Sutton. It was that night, a week ago, when Sutton had called him on the phone and had asked him to liquidate all his securities and bring him the cash. The cash he had in his pocket at this very moment. One hundred thousand dollars of it.

Griswold knew that Sutton was planning to retire from the market. And that didn't suit him at all. Sutton had been too juicy a plum for many years. So there was only one thing to do. And he did it.

It had taken him many an hour to forge Sutton's handwriting. But it had been well worth it. And he had made sure to announce his plans of a trip to Bermuda far enough in advance so that it wouldn't appear suspicious when he left right after Sutton's death.

There had been only one near slip. That was when Sutton had turned and seen him take the gun from his drawer. He had struggled, the fool. But even that had worked to his advantage. For the cut which he'd inflicted on his, Griswold's, head had lent more strength to his story.

Griswold's car started to roll. Suddenly, a figure materialized from the shadows, took shape, and sped

toward the car. The moon suddenly appeared through a rift in the clouds and the figure became distinct.

Griswold gasped; hastily rammed his gear into high. He knew that figure. Knew it as did every criminal throughout the land. And now he feared it in the same fashion.

The Black Hood. Grim symbol of justice.

He tried to coax his car into swift speed. But its pick-up seemed interminably slow. Sweat began to pour down his face. And on came the Dark Knight of Justice, incredibly swift.

The Hood leaped mightily and was astride the running-board. He leaned over to grab the wheel. Blow after blow Griswold rained on the mightily muscled figure before him. But to no avail.

The Hood twisted the wheel. There was a tortured screech from protesting tires, and the car left the road. Then a tree loomed up. A splintering crash. And darkness.

When Griswold regained consciousness, he found himself looking into the Black Hood's face. "Your game's up, murderer," he said, and held up the envelope containing the money.

Griswold was too weak to demur. He wilted as criminals inevitably do when their plans collapse. "How did you know?" he asked resignedly.

"You were very clever," the Hood replied. "But you outsmarted yourself. That handwriting which you took so much pains to forge was the handwriting of a left-handed man. Yet the suicide gun was found in his right hand."



IT'S A MATTER OF ARITHMETIC



TOSS IN

NOW ADD A DASH OF

STIR WELL WITH

AND



Now Remember

NOT TO SUBTRACT

WINGS JOHNSON

"THE ST. LOUIS KID"

KARDAK

AND IT ALL ADDS UP TO

Featuring THE **BLACK HOOD**

TOP NOTCH

NO. 16 JUNE

comics

10c

THE BEST COMIC MAGAZINE BUY, ON YOURS, OR ANY NEWSSTAND

MR. JUSTICE

by
S. COOPER
and
JOE BLAIR

THE TRADE WINDS SIGH THROUGH THE PALM TREES, AND THE MOON DRIPS BLOOD! ... THE LIVING DEAD OF HAITI RISE FROM THEIR GRAVES TO WALK THE EARTH UNDER THE VOODOO SPELL OF ZARRO, THE ZOMBIE MASTER!



IS THE WEIRD RITES GO ON, TWO WHITE MEN WATCH FROM A CONCEALED PLACE IN THE FOLIAGE ...



I AM ZARRO MASTER OF ZOMBIES! I AM THE MASTER OF ALL THINGS EVIL!





LATER, ZARRO MAKES HIS WAY BACK THROUGH THE JUNGLE....



ZARRO, STAND WHERE YOU ARE! WE WISH TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU!



ZARRO KILL! KILL! KILL!

NO YOU WON'T! GUNS WON'T STOP YOUR ZOMBIES, BUT THEY'LL STOP YOU!



NOW LISTEN WHILE WE TELL YOU OUR PLAN! WE WOULD MAKE A PACT WITH YOU!



WE WILL SET UP A FACTORY IN THE JUNGLES OF HAITI, AND SUPPLY IT WITH HUNDREDS OF WORKERS! **WHITE** WORKMEN, ZARRO - FROM THE UNITED STATES! BUT THEY WILL NOT BE HUMAN BEINGS... THEY WILL BE ZOMBIES, ZOMBIES UNDER YOUR POWER! HUNDREDS OF WHITE ZOMBIES UNDER YOUR COMMAND! WHAT DO YOU SAY?



THAT IS THE DREAM OF ZARRO'S LIFE! IF YOU WILL DO WHAT YOU SAY, I SHALL MAKE THIS PACT WITH YOU!

GOOD! WE SHALL BEGIN AT ONCE!

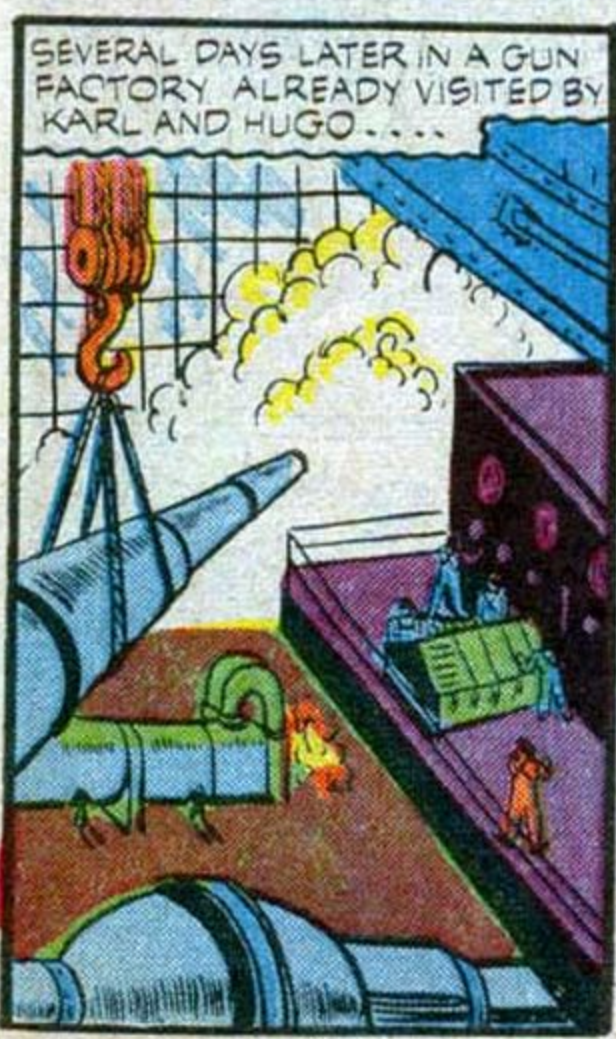


I'VE JUST RECEIVED THIS NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT PRAISING ME ON THE DEFENSE PROJECTS IN OUR CITY!

SOME TIME LATER IN AMERICA, MAYOR CLARK AND HIS DAUGHTER - PAT - ARE IN HIS OFFICE WITH DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROY WINKLER AND MR. JUSTICE!



THAT'S FINE, MISTER MAYOR! EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE COMING ALONG WITHOUT A HITCH! IF WE CAN KEEP IT UP, OLD UNCLE SAM WON'T HAVE MUCH TO WORRY ABOUT!





THE ARMAMENT FACTORY BECOMES A PLACE OF HORROR AS WORKMAN AFTER WORKMAN GASPS, SCREAMS AND - **DIES!**



THE FOREMAN RUSHES TO THE TELEPHONE!
SOMETHIN' AWFUL IS IN THIS PLANT! I'M GETTIN' THE COPS OVER HERE RIGHT AWAY!



MEN ARE DROPPING DEAD ALL OVER THE PLACE!
I'LL PUT YOU THROUGH TO THE D. A.!

WHAT! CONNECT THIS MAN WITH THE MAYOR!

GOOD LORD!



MR. WINKLER! MR. JUSTICE! COME HERE, **QUICK!**

I GOT THE CALL, TOO! WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HAS HAPPENED?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED, BUT IF IT'S SABOTAGE, IT'S THE MOST HORRIBLE PLOT EVER PERPETRATED! WE'LL HAVE TO INVESTIGATE AT ONCE!



ARE YOU COMING ALONG, MR. JUSTICE?

NOT RIGHT NOW! THERE MAY BE OTHER REPORTS COMING IN! I'LL STICK AROUND AND TRY TO BE OVER LATER!



DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS, THE NEWSPAPERS ATTACH GROWING IMPORTANCE TO THE UNCANNY HAPPENINGS IN THE ARMAMENT WORKS, AND THE CASE TAKES ON NATIONAL IMPORTANCE!



DO YOU SEE WHAT THE PAPERS ARE SAYING? THEY'RE AFTER MY SKIN! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!

BUT WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER!

YOUR SECRETARY IS RINGING MISTER MAYOR!



THE TORPEDO CASING COMPANY ON THE SOUTH SIDE JUST CALLED! THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER WAVE OF DEATHS IN THE FACTORY! THEY'RE CALLING FOR YOU TO COME AT ONCE!



IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN! - IN ANOTHER PLANT! HURRY, GENTLEMEN! WE'LL HAVE TO GET TO THE TORPEDO COMPANY!



SEE, MAYOR CLARK? JUST LIKE IT HAPPENED IN THE OTHER FACTORY! MY MEN DROPPED DEAD WITHOUT ANY REASON!



WHY ONLY YESTERDAY A COUPLE OF PHOTOGRAPHERS WERE HERE TAKING PICTURES TO SHOW HOW SAFE THIS FACTORY IS RUN!



HUGO AND KARL AGAIN! HM... I'M BEGINNING TO SEE A POSSIBLE ANSWER TO THIS CASE!

THAT NIGHT,
THE SPIRIT
OF MR. JUSTICE
ENTERS THE
CEMETERY
WHERE THE
VICTIMS OF
THE FIRST
DEATH WAVE
ARE BURIED!



WELL! IT LOOKS AS IF SOMEONE HAS BEEN
HERE AFTER THE BURIAL! THIS EARTH IS
FRESHLY TURNED!



I WAS RIGHT!
THE COFFIN
IS GONE!
AND I'LL
BET THIS
ISN'T THE
ONLY ONE!



I'VE GOT TO LOCATE THE FACTORY
THAT HUGO AND KARL
VISITED MOST RECENT-
LY! I HAVE A HUNCH
THAT'S WHERE
DEATH WILL STRIKE
NEXT!



WHERE'D YOU COME
FROM?

I BEG YOUR
PARDON! I'M MR.
JUSTICE OF
THE MAYOR'S
OFFICE! I WANT
A WORD WITH
YOU!



SO THE PHOTOGRAPHERS
WERE HERE TODAY? I'M
REPLACING ONE OF THE
WORKERS
FOR A
WHILE!

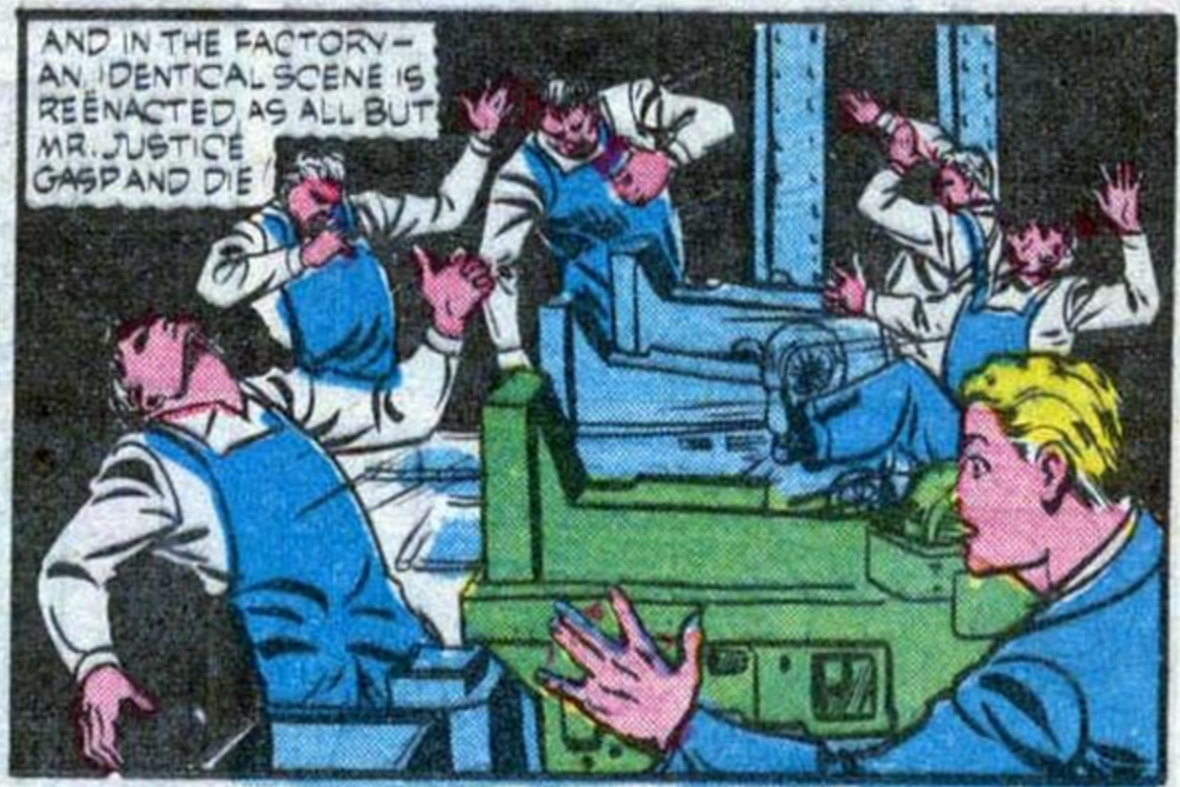


MR. JUSTICE SUBSTITUTES HIMSELF
FOR A WORKMAN ON
THE ASSEMBLY LINE!



IN ANOTHER PART OF
THE CITY-A PHOTO
IS STUDIED!





TWO NIGHTS LATER... IN THE CEMETARY WHERE THE LATEST VICTIMS ARE BURIED....



SO THE GHOULS ARE HERE ALREADY!



AS MR. JUSTICE DESCENDS ON ZARRO, KARL AND HUGO DASH FOR SAFETY!



YOUR FRIENDS SEEM TO HAVE FLOWN THE COOP! BUT YOU'RE THE LAD I'M AFTER, ANYWAY! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!



MR. JUSTICE ASSUMES HIS MORTAL FORM AND TAKES THE ZOMBIE MASTER INTO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE!

HERE'S THE MAN WE'RE AFTER!



COME ON! OUT WITH IT! WHERE ARE THOSE MEN, KARL AND HUGO? WHERE DID YOU SHIP THE BODIES OF THE WORKMEN? TALK!



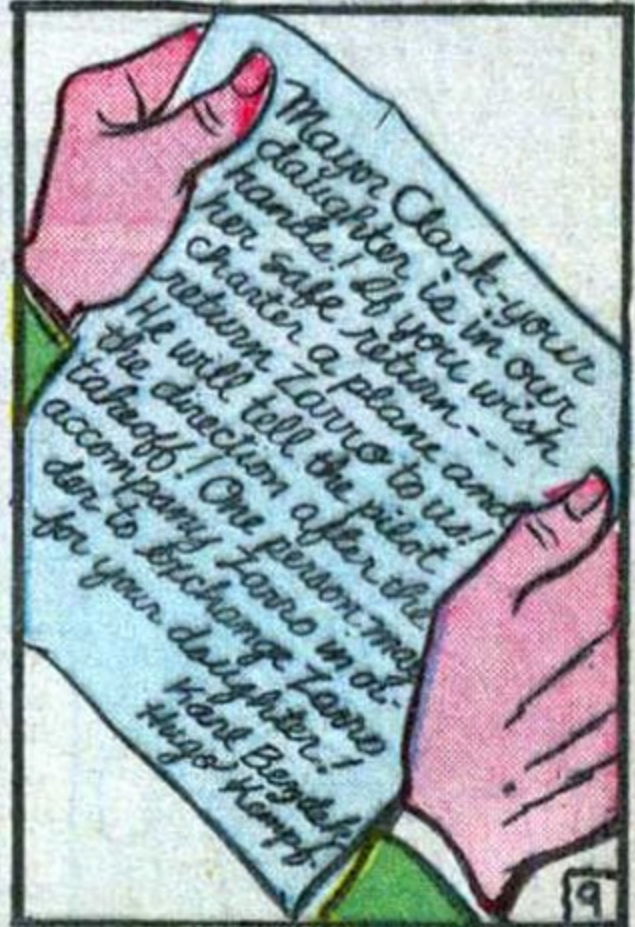
THE NEXT MORNING, AFTER A NIGHT OF FRUITLESS QUESTIONING OF THE ZOMBIE MASTER....

CABLEGRAM FOR THE MAYOR!

RIGHT HERE, BOY!



WINKLER! JUSTICE! LOOK AT THIS!



Mayor Clark - your daughter is in our hands! If you wish her safe return - return a plane and charter a pilot - He will tell the direction after the takeoff! One person may accompany Zarro in order to exchange Zarro for your daughter! - Mark Bergfeld - Hugo Kampf.



MR. JUSTICE ACCOMPANIES ZARRO ON THE FLIGHT!

I CAN NOW INFORM YOU OF OUR DESTINATION! WE ARE GOING TO HAITI!

I HAD A HUNCH THAT WAS IT! AND IF ANYTHING HAS HAPPENED TO PAT - YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD NOW!



THE PLANE LANDS AT A SECRET AIRDROME DEEP IN THE HAITIAN JUNGLES!



YOU HAVE ACTED WISELY, MR. JUSTICE!

HE HAS IF THERE ISN'T SOME KIND OF TRICK INVOLVED!



I AM GOING TO SEARCH THE PLANE FOR A DICTAPHONE OR SOME SUCH APPARATUS! IF ALL IS IN ORDER, WE WILL RELEASE THE GIRL FROM THE SECRET PLACE!



SO! I PLACE THE TIME BOMB HERE SO THAT THE PLANE AND ALL IN IT WILL BE DESTROYED BEFORE REACHING AMERICA!



EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER, HUGO!

BRING OUT THE GIRL!

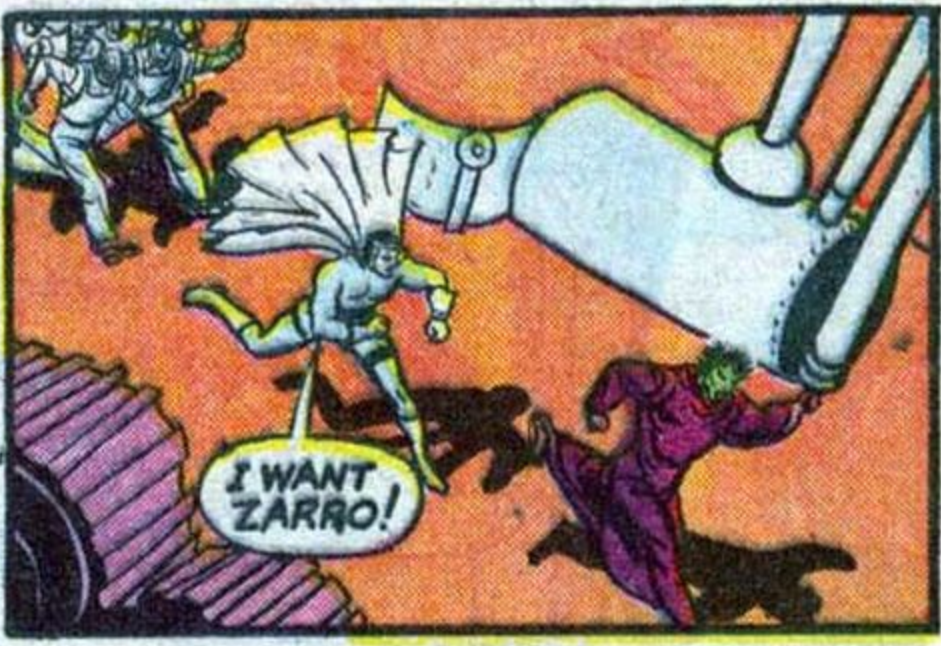
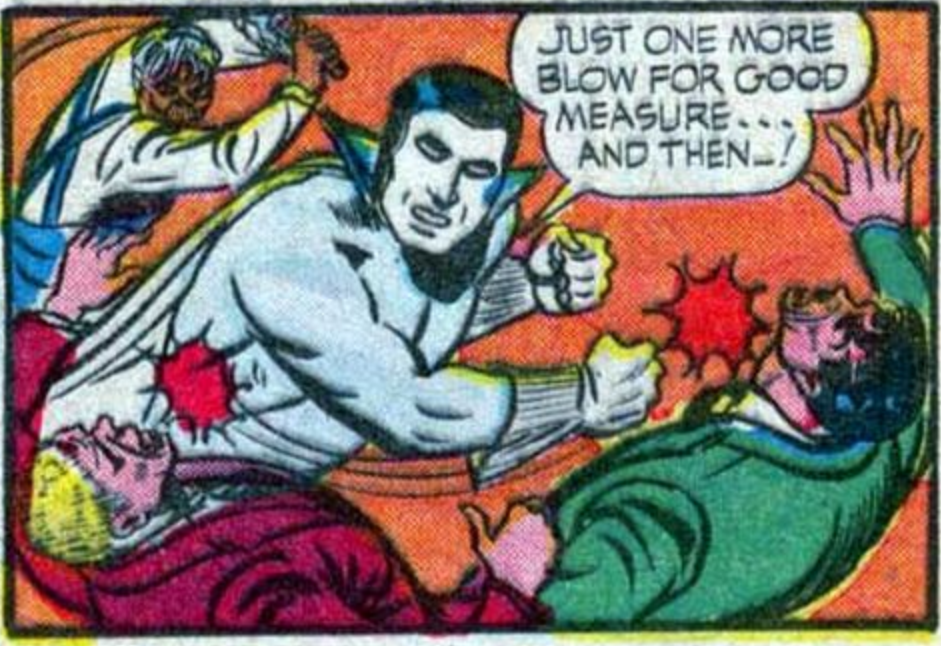


TWO ZOMBIES STEP UP FROM THE RIM OF THE JUNGLE BRINGING PAT CLARK WITH THEM!



REMEMBER! YOU ARE TO FLY STRAIGHT TO YOUR COUNTRY! AND IF YOU ATTEMPT TO RETURN WE SHALL DISPOSE OF YOU WITHOUT A MOMENTS HESITATION!





THE MOMENT ZARRO'S LIFE EBBS OUT OF HIS BODY, A MIRACULOUS CHANGE COMES OVER THE WORKMEN!



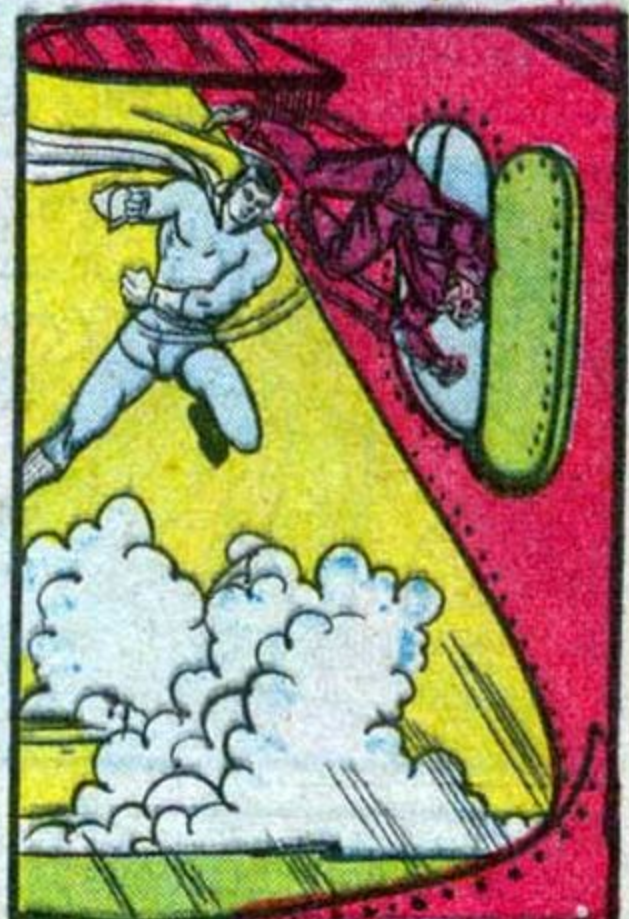
YOU ARE NO LONGER ZOMBIES! YOU'RE LIVING, BREATHING AMERICANS! WHEN ZARRO DIED YOU WERE REBORN! NOW DESTROY THIS PLANT THAT TURNS OUT WAR MATERIALS FOR OUR ENEMIES! THEN I SHALL SEND SHIPS TO TAKE YOU BACK TO AMERICA!



IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GET BACK TO THE PLANE WITH THESE MURDERING MADMEN!



THERE IT IS! NOW TO SEE THAT MY PRIZE PRISONERS GET ABOARD SAFELY FOR THE RETURN TRIP!



WH... WHERE DID THESE MEN COME FROM?

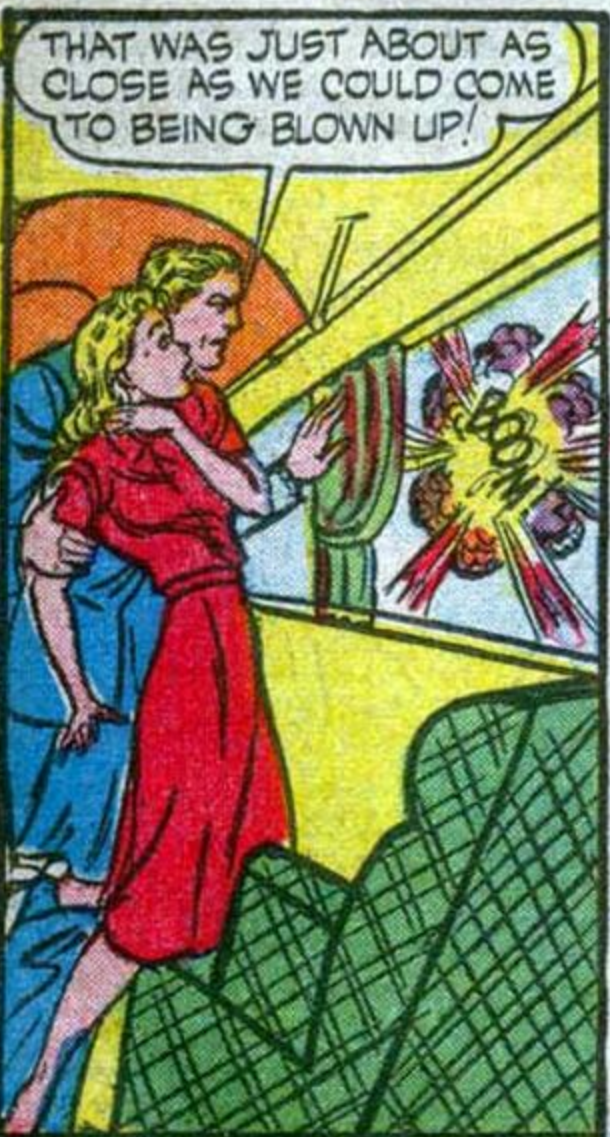


ABOVE THE PLANE, THE ECTOPLASMIC FIGURE BEGINS TO DISINTEGRATE!



MR. JUSTICE! WAKE UP! HURRY!



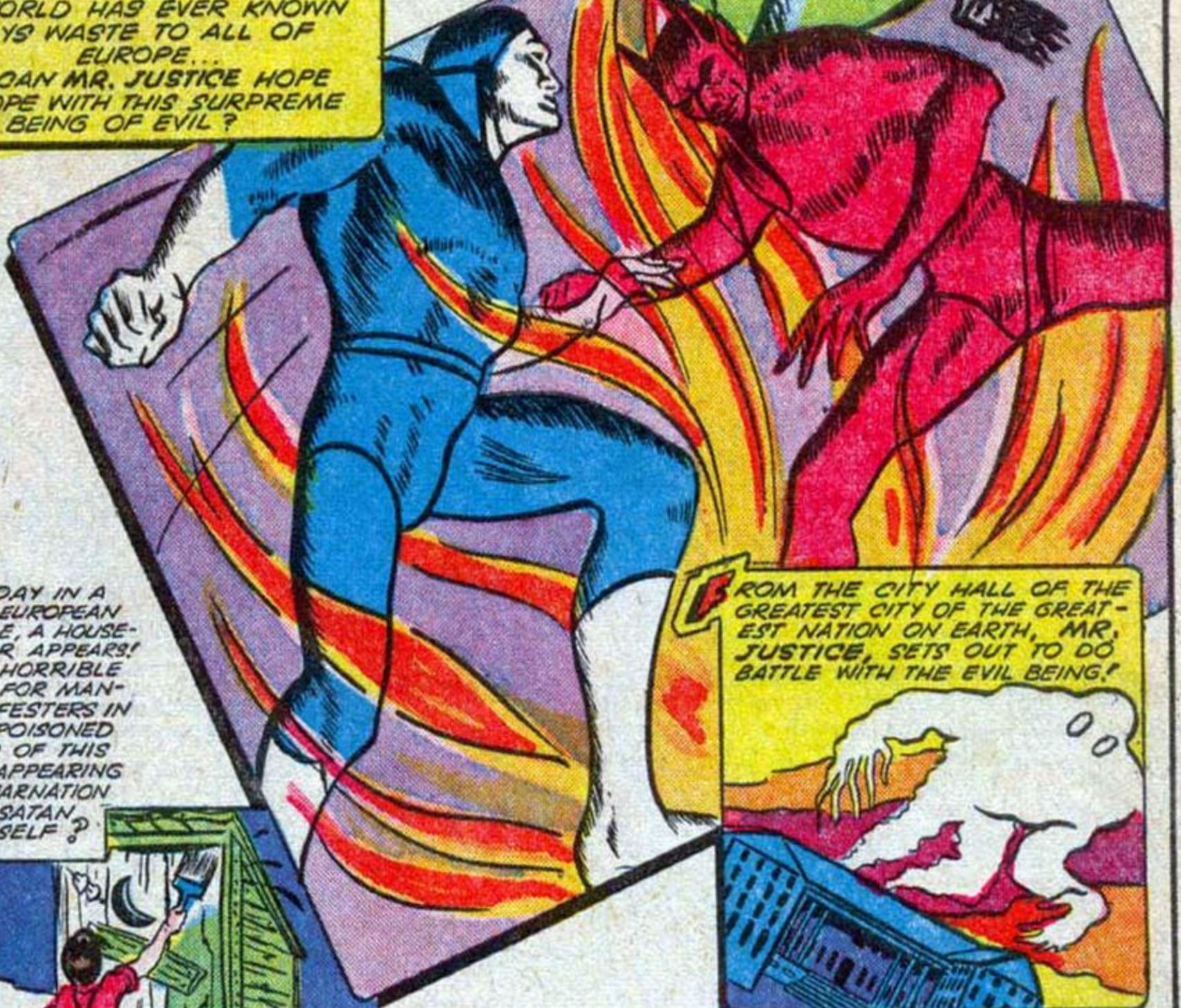


MR. JUSTICE RETURNS IN ANOTHER THRILLING ADVENTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF JACK POT COMICS! MEANWHILE FOLLOW HIS BATTLE WITH "THE DICTATOR" IN BLUE RIBBON COMICS!

MR. JUSTICE

THE DEVIL HIMSELF APPEARS UPON EARTH, AND CALLS HIMSELF THE DICTATOR! SETTING UP THE MOST POWERFUL ARMY THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN HE LAYS WASTE TO ALL OF EUROPE...

HOW CAN MR. JUSTICE HOPE TO COPE WITH THIS SUPREME BEING OF EVIL?



ONE DAY IN A SMALL EUROPEAN VILLAGE, A HOUSE-PAINTER APPEARS! WHAT HORRIBLE FATE FOR MANKIND FESTERS IN THE POISONED MIND OF THIS MEEK APPEARING REINCARNATION OF SATAN HIMSELF?



FROM THE CITY HALL OF THE GREATEST CITY OF THE GREATEST NATION ON EARTH, MR. JUSTICE, SETS OUT TO DO BATTLE WITH THE EVIL BEING!



WITH THE ROAR OF GUNS AND THE POUNDING OF GOOSE-STEPPING HEELS, THUNDERING THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THE DICTATOR, DRUNK WITH POWER HURLS HIS CHALLENGE AT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. HOW COULD MR. JUSTICE, FIGHTING ALONE, AND WITH HIS BELOVED, ALREADY IN THE HANDS OF HELL-SPAWNED HIRELINGS OF THE DICTATOR, HOPE TO VANQUISH THIS MIGHTY MILITARY MACHINE, THAT HAD SWEEPED THE WORLD'S ONCE-GREATEST ARMIES FROM ITS PATH?

HIS FASCINATING STORY OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CONFLICT STARTS IN THE JUNE ISSUE, AND IS CONTINUED IN SUBSEQUENT ISSUES OF

BLUE RIBBON COMICS

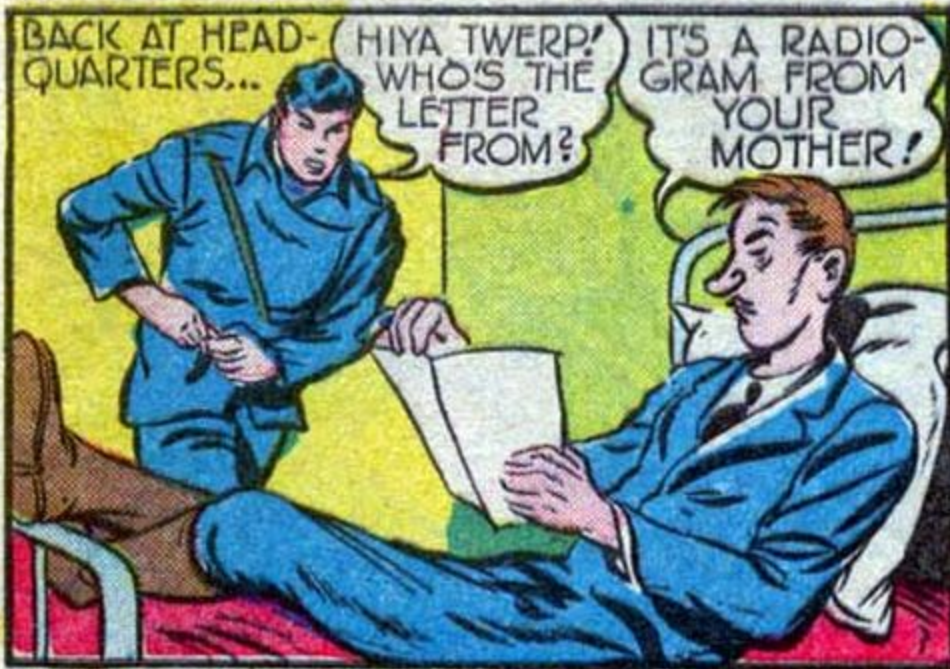
Sergeant Boyle



C'MON, YOU FLYING DEVILS! COME AN' GET IT! WE'RE DISHIN' OUT HOT LEAD, FREE! ON THE HOUSE!

HEY BOYLE! YOU'VE BEEN ON THAT GUN FOR EIGHT HOURS! G'WAN AN' GET SOME REST! I'LL TAKE OVER!

HEY PETE! SEND UP MORE SHELLS! THIS GUY BOYLE IS USIN' 'EM. ALL UP!



BACK AT HEAD-QUARTERS...

HIYA TWERP! WHO'S THE LETTER FROM?

IT'S A RADIO-GRAM FROM YOUR MOTHER!



TO YOU?

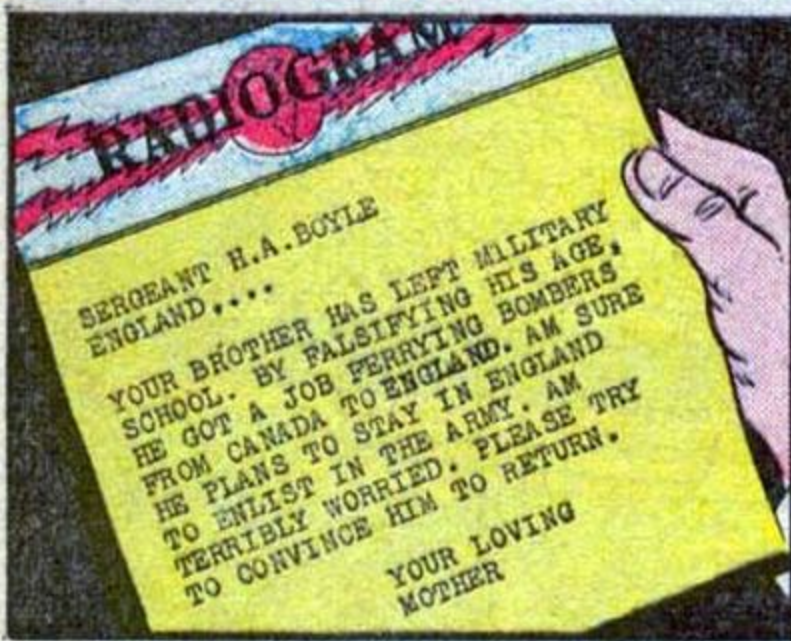
NO, TO YOU!.. SHE SAYS..



GIMME THAT! I'LL READ IT MYSELF!



CRIPES! THAT CRAZY KID BROTHER OF MINE!



RADIOGRAM
SERGEANT H.A. BOYLE
ENGLAND....
YOUR BROTHER HAS LEFT MILITARY SCHOOL. BY FALSIFYING HIS AGE, HE GOT A JOB FERRYING BOMBERS FROM CANADA TO ENGLAND. AM SURE HE PLANS TO STAY IN ENGLAND TO ENLIST IN THE ARMY. AM TERRIBLY WORRIED. PLEASE TRY TO CONVINCE HIM TO RETURN.
YOUR LOVING MOTHER



MEANWHILE, OFF THE IRISH COAST...

TAKE OVER, BOYLE, I'LL GRAB A NAP!

GEE! WHEN YOU CALL ME BOYLE, I FEEL LIKE I'M MY BIG BROTHER! GEE!



I WISH I COULD BE LIKE HIM!.. HOPE HE'S GLAD TO SEE ME.. HE MAY SHOW ME SOME OF THE TRICKS HE PULLED ON THE NAZIS... HEY! SOMEONE'S ON MY RADIO!



H'YA TOMMY! CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCKHEAD, EH, KID?.. HOW'S EVERYTHING?.. HAVE A GOOD TRIP?

AW. GEE.. YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT MAD AT ME FOR LEAVING SCHOOL! BOY!.. THAT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND!



...AND SO I FIGURED THAT I MIGHT AS WELL GET INTO THE FIGHT, TOO... HEY! THERE'S A NAZI SUB BELOW ME!

AW!! I'LL BET YOU WOULDN'T DO THAT! YOU'D TRY TO KNOCK OFF THEIR PERISCOPE WITH YOUR UNDER-CARRIAGE!
WHAT? DON'T DO IT, KID..YOU'LL CRACK UP LIKE AN ACCORDION... SCRAM! FAST! YOU'RE NOT ARMED!

SCRAM OUT OF THERE!..START CLIMBING!



ENEMY BOMBER! SUBMERGE!



HOLY HAT, TOMMY, YOU CAN'T JUDGE THE LANDING OF A BOMBER THAT CLOSE! DON'T DO IT!

AW GOSH! THIS IS MY FIRST CHANCE TO DO ANYTHING REAL GOOD!



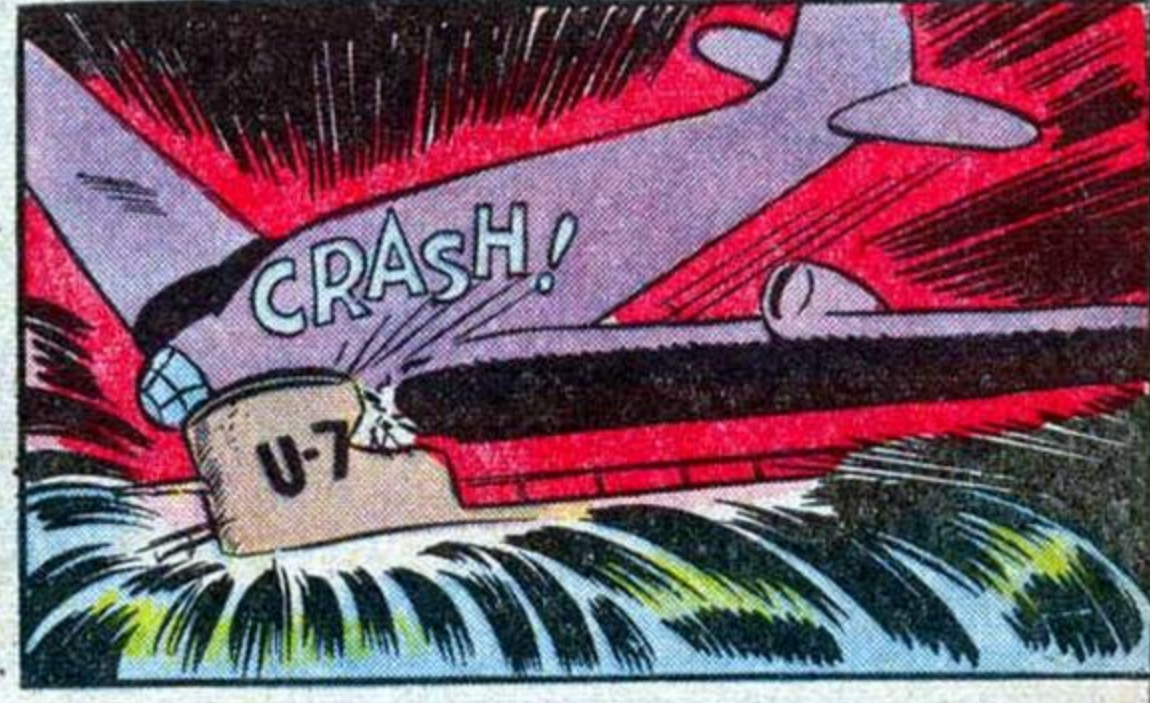
HEY, YOU JERK, WHAT TA YUH TRYIN' TO DO?..KILL US BOTH? UGH!

SORRY, STEVE, BUT THIS IS WHAT MY BROTHER WOULD DO!

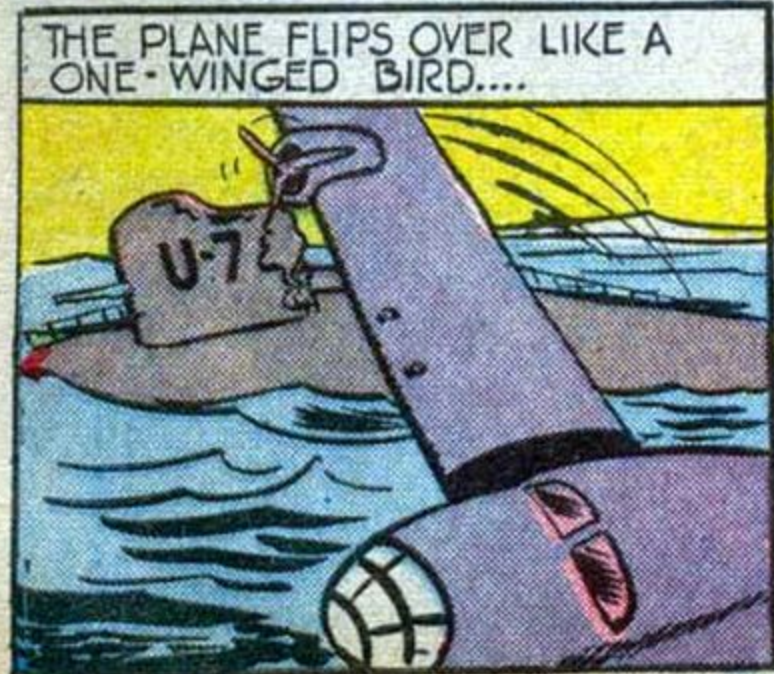
SOCK!



WOW! LOOK AT WHAT YOU WENT AND DID, STEVE! I'M TOO LOW!



CRASH!

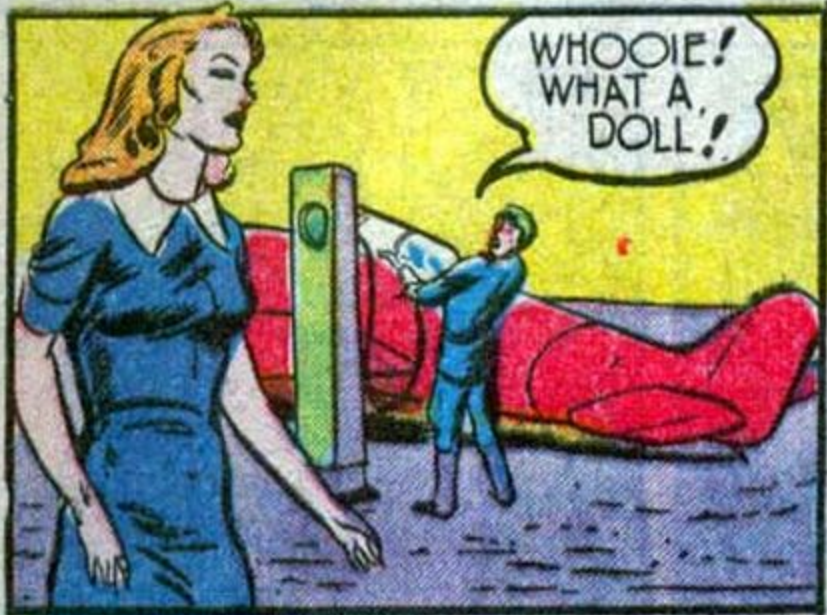


THE PLANE FLIPS OVER LIKE A ONE-WINGED BIRD....



AND THE UNCONSCIOUS PILOTS ARE CARRIED ABOARD THE SUB....









BOYLE SAYS IF HIS BROTHER WASN'T IN A JAM, HE WOULDN'T BE FOUND DEAD WITH YOU!

SLAPSIE, YOU CAN TELL TWERP TO TELL BOYLE FOR ME THAT IF HE DOESN'T KEEP HIS YAP SHUT, HE'S GONNA GET FLUNG OUT OF HERE!



COLLINS SAYS IF YOU DON'T KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT, YOU'LL GET TOSSED OUT ON YOUR EAR!

OH, HE DID, DID HE?



BAM!

POW!



HEY! LOOK! HEINIE SUB ON THE SURFACE!

HOLD IT!

GEE! THEIR CONNING TOWER SURE IS A WRECK!



THEY'LL TORPEDO US SURE IF WE DON'T SINK THEM FIRST!

NO!..MY KID BROTHER MAY BE IN THERE! WAIT.. ...I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



HEY!..IF YOU NEED ANY HELP, YELL!..I'LL BE OVER!



HIYA, BOYS! THIS IS A TRUCE... I WANT TO TALK TO YOUR CAPTAIN!



G..GEE.. IT'S YOU...HOW...

IXNAY ON THE ALKRAY!.. AMSCRAY!

? VOT ISS?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ENGLISH? I SAID I HAVE A PROPOSITION TO MAKE! LET ME TAKE THESE TWO PRISONERS OFF YOUR HANDS!..IN EXCHANGE...



..YOU CAN SLIP THROUGH BY A NORTHERN ROUTE TO YOUR BASE FOR REPAIRS. WE GUARANTEE NOT TO GIVE YOU AWAY!..HOWEVER, OUR BOAT IS RADIO-EQUIPPED AND, IF YOU REFUSE OUR OFFER, MY FRIENDS WILL IMMEDIATELY GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ADMIRALTY, AND YOU WON'T STAND A CHANCE!



SURE! SURE! DOT'S VOT I CALL A SENSIBLE DEAL! TAKE DEM!..VE DON'T MIND!



GLAD YOU SEE THINGS OUR WAY!..WELL, SO LONG, CAPTAIN..HAVE A....HEY! WHAT IS THIS?



YOU DON'T IMACHINE FOR VUN MINUTE, I AM SUCH A FOOL TO AGREE TO SUCH A STUPID OFFER! VE HAFF OTHER WAYS OF DEALING WIT' ENGLISH SVINE! TAKE THEM BELOW AND SHOOT THEM!



C'MON, KID! WE'VE GOT A FIGHT! ON OUR HANDS!

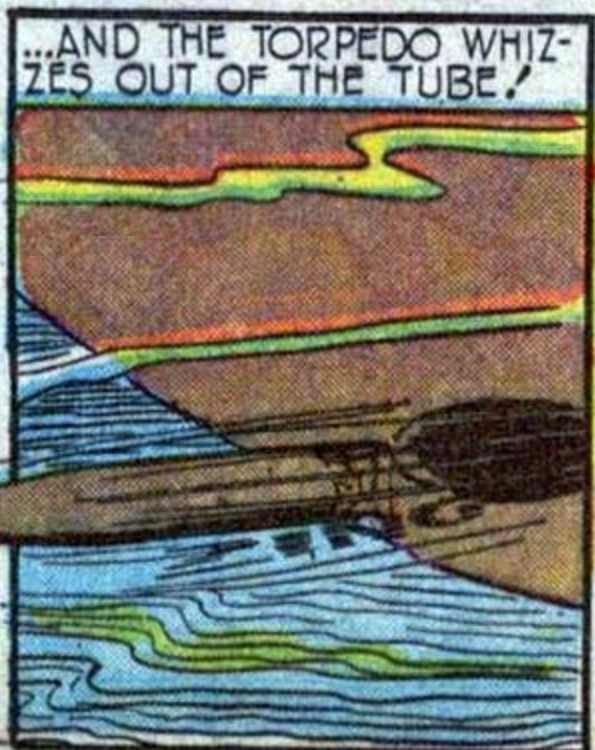
WE'LL SHOW THIS YELLOW BACKED HEINIE THAT WE BOYLES DON'T GET KILLED AWFUL EASY!



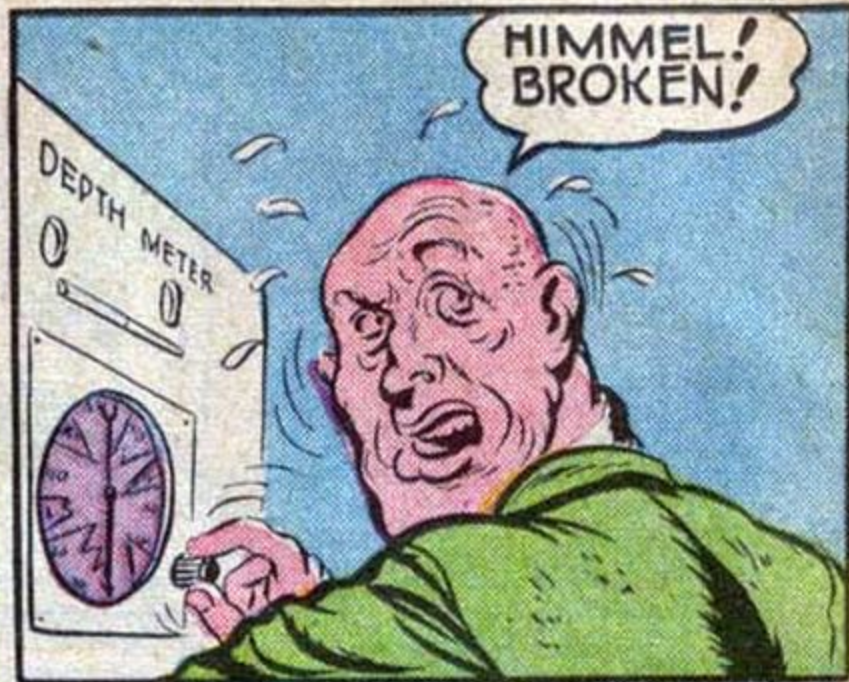
YAHOO! WATCH MY SMOKE!



SET 'EM UP, KID!..I'LL KNOCK 'EM DOWN!







LOOK, COLLINS, YOU RED-HEADED PUNK!.. IF YOU HAD THE BRAINS OF A MORON, YOU'D READ THE TITLE OF THIS STORY, AND DISCOVER THAT IT'S **SERGEANT BOYLE!** THAT MEANS IT'S MY STORY, AND BELIEVE ME, I DON'T WANT YOU IN IT! NEXT THING YOU KNOW YOU'LL BE SHOVING THAT CURLY TIPPED SCHNOZZOLE OF YOURS INTO **PEP COMICS**, AND THAT'S ONE PLACE WHERE WE DON'T NEED OR WANT YOU! WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF SWELL CHARACTERS IN THERE, THE KIND OF GUYS YOU'D KNOW NOTHING ABOUT! WE'VE GOT **THE SHIELD**, AND **DUSTY**, THE SPECTACULAR BOY DETECTIVE, AND ON TOP OF THEM WE HAVE THAT SENSATIONAL NEW SECOND FEATURE "**THE HANGMAN!**".. AND WE'VE GOT **DANNY**, THE WONDERLAND KID, **MADAM SATAN**, **THE FIREBALL**, **KAYO WARD**, AND **BENTLEY** OF SCOTLAND YARD! IN OTHER WORDS, **PEP COMICS** IS THE BEST MAGAZINE ON THE NEWSSTANDS!.. NOW, WHAT'VE YOU GOT TO SAY ABOUT THAT?



NOW YOU GET VOT ISS COMING TO... VOT ISS DOT?



TIME I STEPPED INTO THE PICTURE! BOYLE BETTER REMEMBER HIS MORSE CODE!



MORSE CODE! BUT HOW CAN IT BE? VE ARE ON DE OCEAN FLOOR!

SHUT UP! AND I'LL FIND OUT!

TAT TAT TAT



PIPE DOWN, YOU DOPE! THESE SAUERKRAUTS KNOW MORSE!

OKAY, YOU DRIP, BUT THEY DON'T SAVVY PIG LATIN! NOW, GET THIS!...

OH! SO YOU'RE IN THE BEST MAGAZINE ON THE NEWSSTANDS, ARE YOU? NOW, LISTEN TO ME, YOU FATHEADED, KNOCK-KNEED, BOW-LEGGED EXCUSE FOR A SPAVINED BABOON, I'M IN **BLUE RIBBON COMICS**, SEE!.. AND IN **BLUE RIBBON**, WE'VE GOT THE TWO MOST SENSATIONAL LEAD STORIES OF ANY MAGAZINE ON ANY NEWSSTAND! WE'VE GOT **MR. JUSTICE** AND **RANG-A-TANG**, THE WONDER DOG, WITH **RICHY**, THE AMAZING BOY! AND IF THOSE TWO, AND ME AREN'T ENOUGH, WE'VE ALSO GOT **INFERNO**, THE FLAME BREATHER, (IF YOU REMEMBER HIM, HE USED TO HELP **STEEL STERLING**, AND NOW HE'S GOT A STORY OF HIS OWN) AND **TY-GOR**, **THE GREEN FALCON**, **PENNY PARKER**, THE GIRL DETECTIVE, AND **THE FOX!** SO, JUST CLIMB BACK INTO YOUR COOP, CHICKEN BRAIN, YOU'VE LAID ENOUGH EGGS!



VELL? SPEAK!
...VOT DOES HE SAY?

WE'RE ONLY TWENTY FEET BELOW THE SURFACE SO WE ALL HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

IT WILL BE AN EASY MATTER TO WRIGGLE THROUGH THE FORWARD TORPEDO TUBE AND SWIM TO THE SURFACE! AFTER THAT, YOU'LL HAVE TO SHIFT FOR YOURSELVES, BUT YOU'LL BE OUT OF THIS DEATH TRAP!

HMM... I SEE!

YOUR IDEA ISS CLEVER, BUT IT ISS YOU WHO VILL HAFF TO SHIFT FOR YOURSELVES. UNFORTUNATELY VE MUST TAKE OVER YOUR BOAT!... ABANDON SHIP!

WHY YOU DOUBLE CROSSIN'...

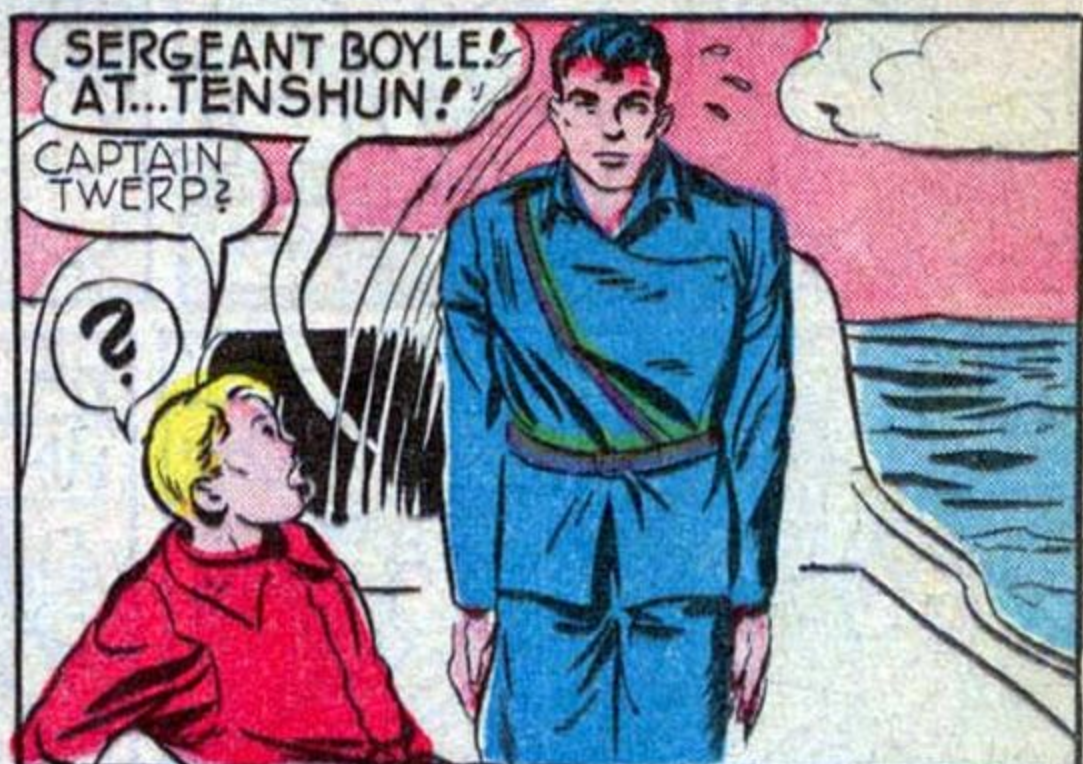
NO NEED TO VASTE BULLETS ON YOU! YOU VILL FIND IT A LONG SVIM TO SHORE!... AUF WIEDERSEHEN!

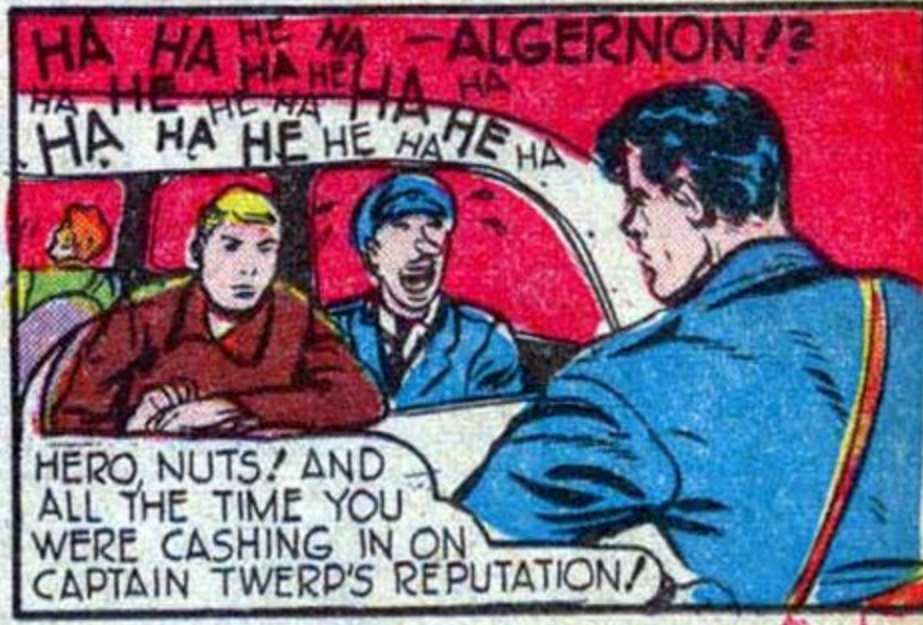
WE'RE REALLY IN THE SOUP! NO KIDDIN'!

COULD BE... BUT THAT RED-HEADED LUG MAY HAVE AN ACE UP HIS SLEEVE!

HEY, BOYLE! ANY MORE HEINIES IN THERE? BOY, YOU CAME AWFUL CLOSE TO A WALLOP ON THAT LANTERN JAW!

HOW'RE WE DOIN', SARGE?





THERE'S ALWAYS LAUGHS AND THRILLS GALORE WHENEVER THOSE DEVIL-MAY-CARE ACES OF THE ALLIED WAR FORCES, SERGEANT BOYLE AND CORPORAL COLLINS GET TOGETHER. AND THEY GET TOGETHER REGULARLY IN PEP COMICS, BLUE RIBBON COMICS AND JACKPOT COMICS!

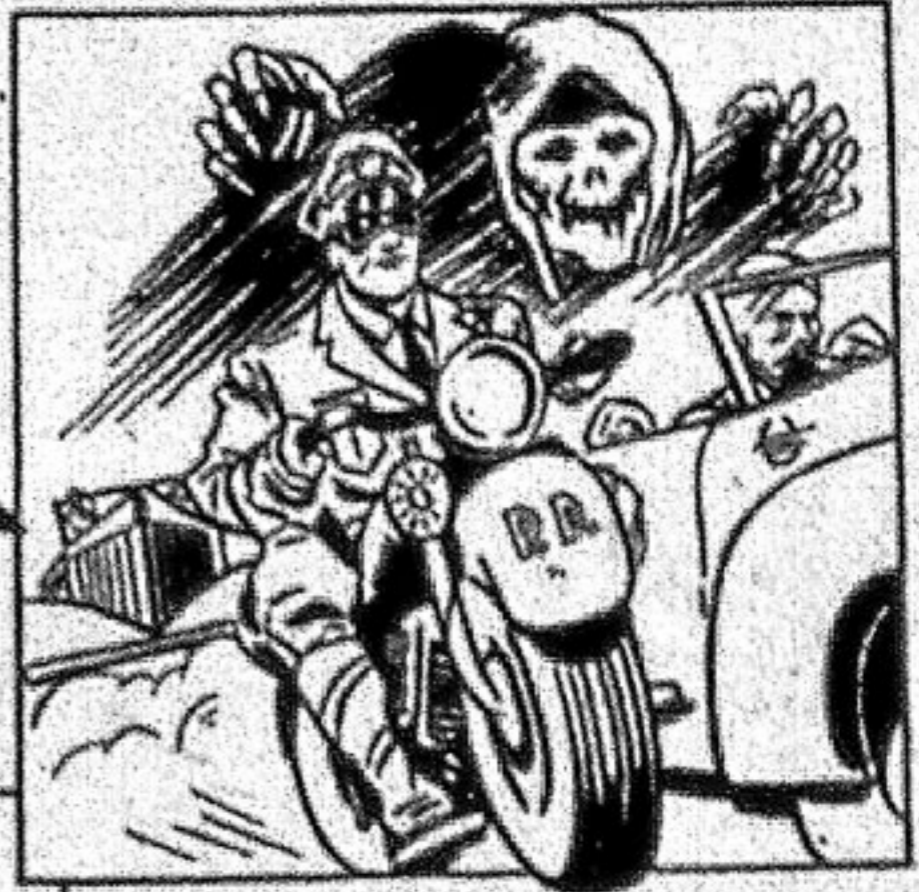
Here's what you get in NO. 3

SHIELD - WIZARD

comics

WHY DID JU JU WATSON FACE THE ELECTRIC CHAIR... AND HOW COULD THE SHIELD SAVE HIM WITHOUT FIRST BREAKING THE LAW HE HAD SWORN TO UPHOLD?....

THE MANGANESE MURDERS



WAS THIS A PRE-HISTORIC BEAST THAT STRUCK TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF ALL HOLLYWOOD OR WAS IT MURDER, HUMANLY AND FIENDISHLY DESIGNED? THAT ONLY THE WIZARD COULD FRUSTRATE!

THE MONSTER OF MADNESS

WAS THIS A GHOST SHIP THAT CAME OUT OF THE MIST TO PLUNGE JOE, DUSTY JUJU AND BETTY WARREN INTO THE WEIRDEST ADVENTURE OF THEIR CAREERS?..

DEATH BELOW

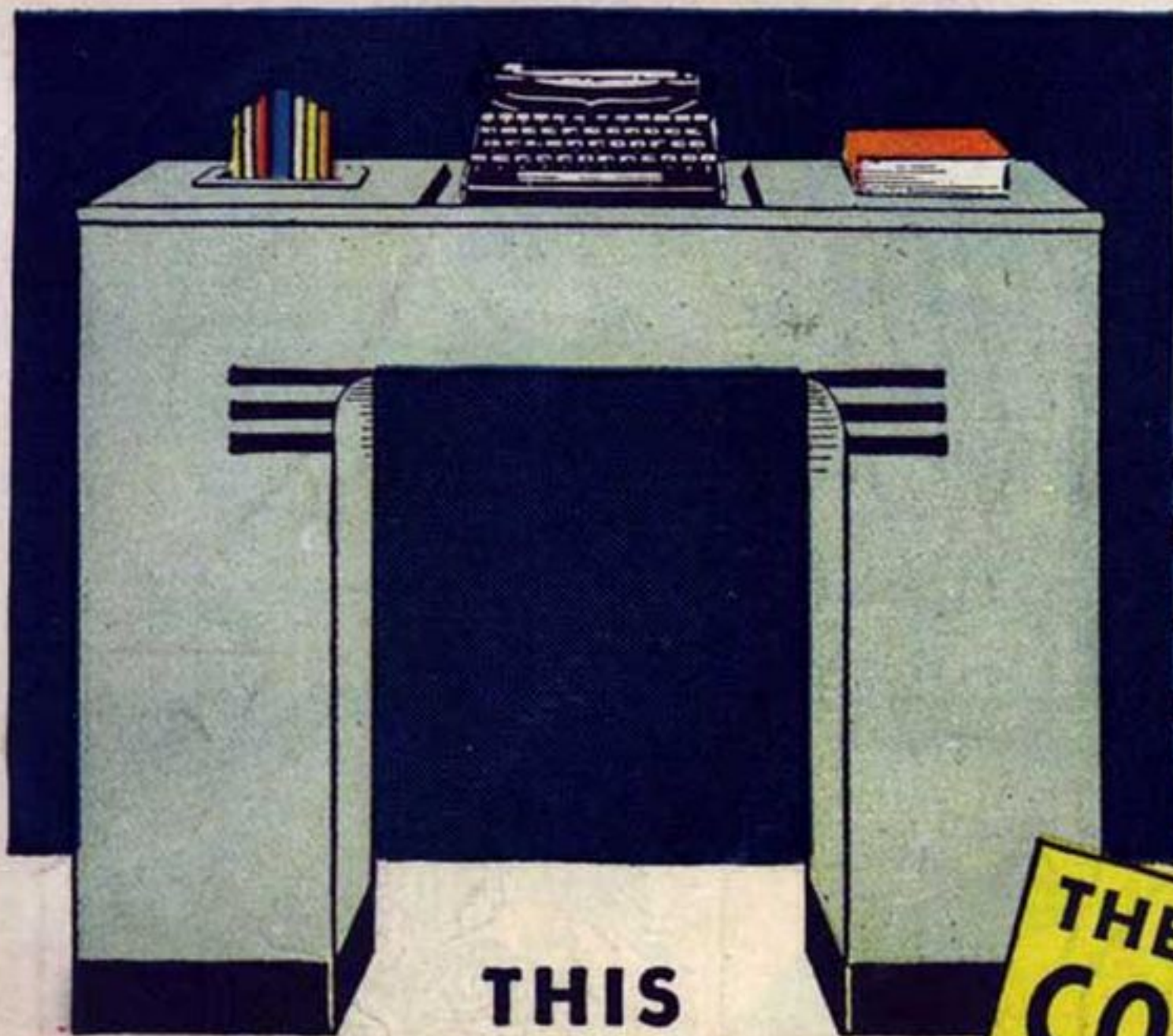


TERROR STRUCK AT ALL THOSE WHO TRIED TO WORK IN THE VITAL MANGANESE MINES, BUT THE SHIELD AND DUSTY WERE STILL TO BE RECKONED WITH!....

WEIRD HORROR STRUCK AT ALL VISITORS TO THE CITY UNTIL THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPER-BOY DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE!..

THE CORPSES THAT WOULDN'T STAY HOME

ALL THESE STORIES, AND MORE APPEAR IN THE SPRING 15-SUE, NO. 3, OF SHIELD-WIZARD COMICS, ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS ON MARCH 1st. ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!



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